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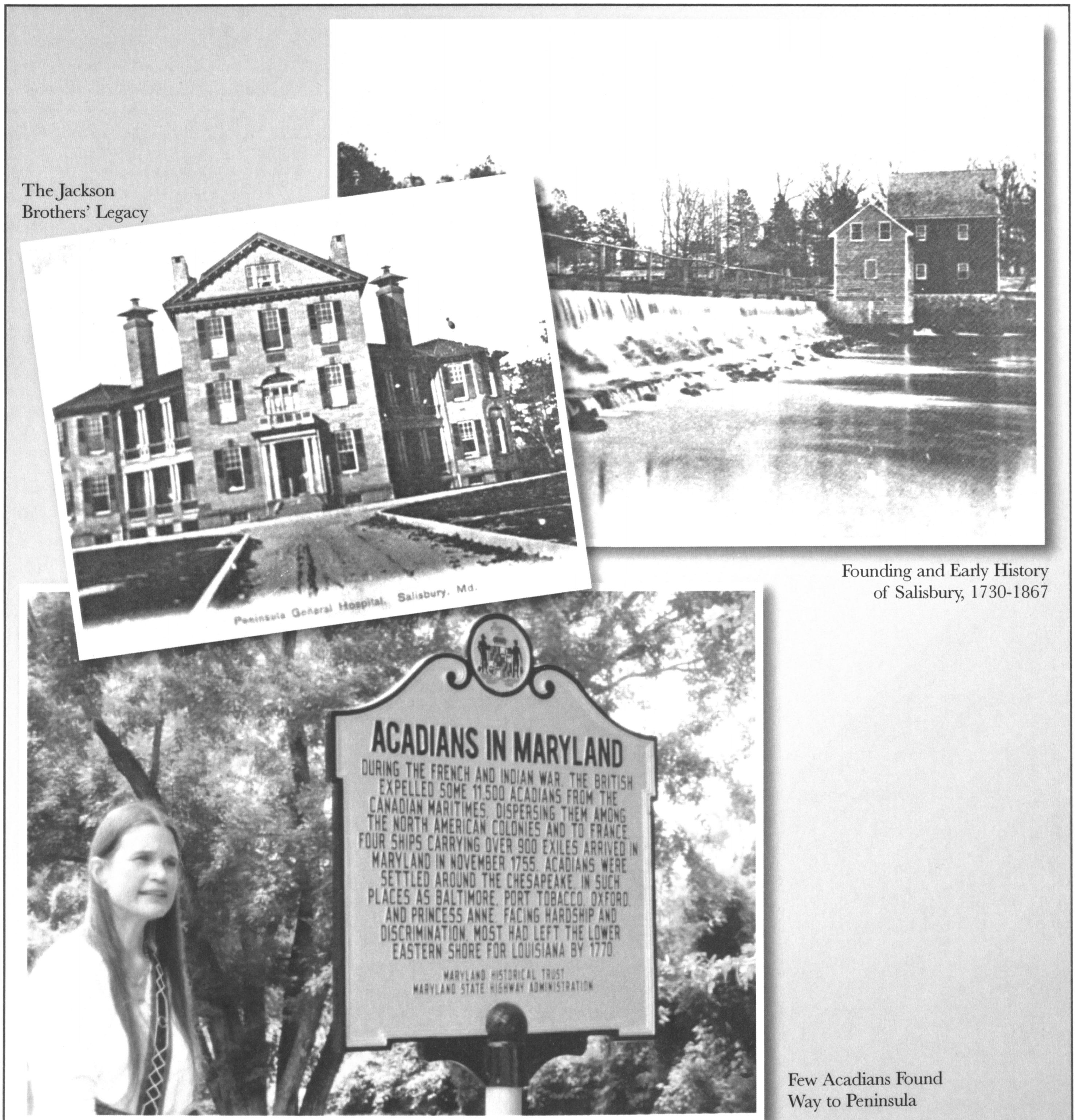
Shoreline

Vol. 22 • December 2015

For the Members of the Edward H. Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture at Salisbury University


Peninsula General Hospital, Salisbury, Md.
ACADIANS IN MARYLAND
DURING THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR, THE BRITISH EXPELLED SOME 11,500 ACADIANS FROM THE CANADIAN MARITIMES, DISPERSING THEM AMONG THE NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES AND TO FRANCE. FOUR SHIPS CARRYING OVER 900 EXILES ARRIVED IN MARYLAND IN NOVEMBER 1755. ACADIANS WERE SETTLED AROUND THE CHESAPEAKE, IN SUCH PLACES AS BALTIMORE, PORT TOBACCO, OXFORD, AND PRINCESS ANNE. FACING HARDSHIP AND DISCRIMINATION, MOST HAD LEFT THE LOWER EASTERN SHORE FOR LOUISIANA BY 1770.
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
MARYLAND STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

The Jackson Brothers' Legacy

Founding and Early History of Salisbury, 1730-1867

Few Acadians Found Way to Peninsula

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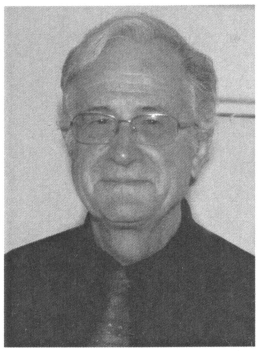
By Dr. G. Ray Thompson


Dr. G. Ray Thompson

As another year comes to a close, we are thankful for many things – the blessings of the season, the freedoms we enjoy and hope for a bright future. This is a time when we also often feel rushed – finishing semester grades, preparing for visits to/from loved ones, wrapping last-minute gifts, writing cards, decorating trees, hanging swags and the endless round of parties. If you are a list maker, that "list" seems endless as yet one more thing is added to what must be done.

Although we know that the season is much more than a deadline, for us at Nabb Center the hustle and bustle of the season has included continuing our day-to-day work, as well as preparation for the move to new quarters and the immediate deadline of editing and re-editing this *Shoreline.* I hope you enjoy this issue with its rich and diverse subjects – some penned by professional historians, others by students, and yet others by Nabb members and friends. We continue John Jacobs' saga of the birth of Salisbury, seeing the slow development and the many individuals who were instrumental in Salisbury's growth. We are reminded that Salisbury was still something of a frontier environment – an 18th century Dodge City complete with taverns, hostelries, indentured servants-made-good, aristocratic landowners and raucous individuals who often fell afoul of the law. Member Joyce Burrell has mined the African American Delaware Methodist Episcopal Conference records to bring to light the life of a remarkable 19th century minister. The Nabb Center has been blessed with a number of very talented interns and staff who were tasked with writing thoughtful narratives on our recent and upcoming exhibits, on new collections, and on a variety of historical subjects.

We round out the issue with articles on the "new" Nabb Center and its move to main campus in late summer 2016, as well as tidbits about recent financial and collection donations and donors. The desire to help preserve Delmarva's history by funding a room in honor of one's family or a loved one has led a number of our members to step forward and do a "naming" opportunity in the new Nabb Center.

Here at Nabb, we are truly thankful for many things – in particular, an addition to the substantial financial donations made recently to the Center as well as a very recent donation of more than 600 mid-19th century letters from a prominent Eastern Shore family. Significant donations and new documentary and artifact collections that tell the story of Delmarva have indeed made us feel grateful for our wonderful supporters who continually step forward to help us preserve the history and culture of Delmarva.

We say "thank you" to each of you members for making the Nabb Research Center the success it has become today. Please take time to enjoy the remnants of the holiday season!

Submissions

The Nabb Research Center is always interested in articles on the history, culture or heritage of the Delmarva region. If you or anyone you know is interested in writing for *Shoreline*, please send material, proposals, suggestions or comments to the attention of the "Newsletter Editor" as follows:

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Salisbury University
1101 Camden Ave.
Salisbury, MD 21801-6860

Or by email to nabbcenter@salisbury.edu. Please include the words "Newsletter Editor" in the subject line.

Hours & Closings

READING ROOM HOURS:
Monday: 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
Tuesday-Friday: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

CLOSINGS:
December 24-January 3
January 18
March 14-March 19
May 30

Shoreline

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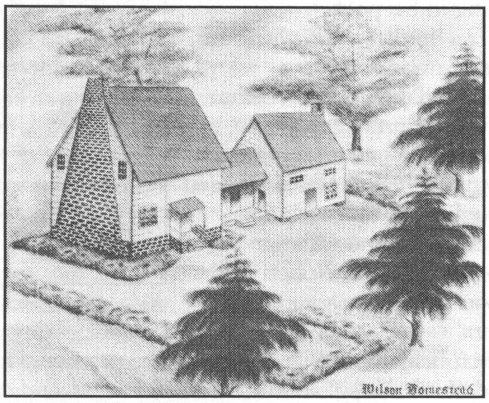

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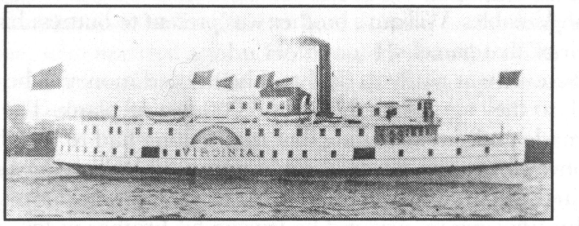

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Founding and Early History of Salisbury, 1730-1867

By John E. Jacob

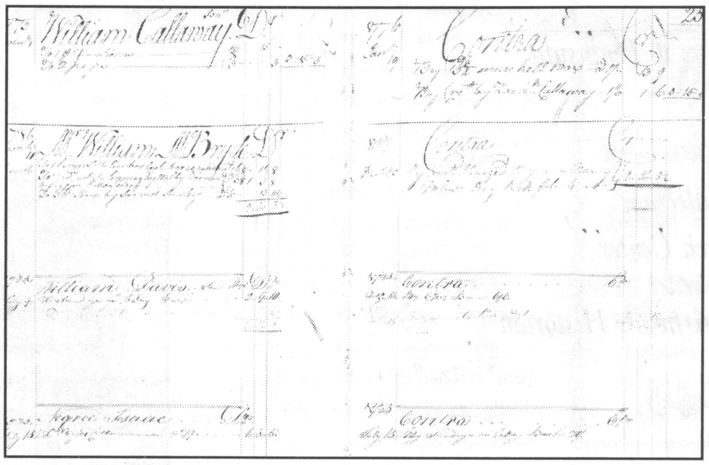
This is the second installment of the unpublished manuscript Founding and Early History of Salisbury, 1730-1867 *by the late John E. Jacob of Salisbury, MD. It contains Chapters IV-V.*

CHAPTER IV

The Early Years 1750-1774

Samuel Caldwell

Samuel Caldwell, John's youngest son, became an adult in 1754. He was then his own man, free from control. He had taken orders all his life, from his parents, his older brothers and sisters, and his master Robert Mills. He was now a skilled workman, having learned a trade as a shop joiner. Unlike his father, Samuel wasn't a miller or a sawyer, nor was he interested in selling lots in Salisbury. He had no intention of growing old on the Shore. He wanted to see other places. The properties he had inherited were like chains, holding him back; he wanted to be free, with cash jingling in his pocket.



Nelms Ledger

His brother-in-law, William Venables, was ready to accommodate Samuel. William had no properties in his own name, but he had prospects and he wanted the mills that belonged to Samuel. He arranged a bargaining session with Samuel at his home, at which Robert Mills, Samuel's former master, was present as well as Venables' brother, Benjamin. William offered two properties to Samuel, one called "Little Nelsy," of 200 acres, and the second called "Bell's First Choice," also of 200 acres. Although he owned no land outright at this time, William had a bond of conveyance on "Little Nelsy" and claimed "Bell's First Choice" as the heir of his father, Joseph Venables. William's brother was present to buttress his claim as heir of that parcel.

Samuel was ready to deal and he needed money if he was to travel, so they agreed on 2,000 or 3,000 feet of plank. The deal was made and put in writing, but that writing had to be a bond of conveyance since no deed could pass until William Venables acquired actual title to both properties. Samuel was happy. He had his traveling money and he trusted his brother-in-law, so he took off. William fulfilled his end of the bargain, but not until there was a fire at his house in March 1760, and the unrecorded bond of conveyance was in ashes. Samuel had gone off to St. Mary's County where he had married, sired a daughter and died, all before signing a deed.

Not to worry, William Venables had all the trappings of ownership and probably the assurance of his sister-in-law that his niece, when she reached her majority, would sign a confirmatory deed. In the meantime, William did all he could to obtain the properties. He obtained depositions from his brother, Benjamin, and from Robert Mills, and then had both depositions recorded in the Land Records. That seemed to satisfy everyone in Salisbury. William executed bonds of conveyance with those who had recorded dealing with him. The most interesting of these is referred to only in a note on page 189 of Torrence's *Old Somerset*, which states: "In a fragment of an old account book of Stepney Parish 1769-1805 we find the following item: '1769, Nov. 7 to William Venables for 2 acres of land.'" There was not a word about boundaries or road frontages, or a forthcoming bond of conveyance; but Venables was a Presbyterian elder, and his word was his bond.

John Nelms

Whether John Nelms came to Salisbury at the urging of William Winder or John Caldwell to replace John Reddish in his store is anybody's guess. Known to have been in business for himself by 1752, John Nelms' store soon became the anchor store for the community. He was a canny businessman, doing business at a profit through depressions, times of prosperity and two wars – the French and Indian War and the Revolution. At the time of his death in 1787, he owned several thousand acres of land in three counties of two states. In addition, he had two due bills from the new State of Maryland, two pots of coins, slaves and extensive personal property in addition to his store stock.

John Nelms seemed to be able to sense each period of boom and bust; he never bought heavily on credit, nor gave unreasonable credit to his customers. He sold on 12-month credit without interest, but added 6 per per annum thereafter and collected it. He solved the credit problem by taking in trade lumber, shingles, wheat, corn, salted meat, beeswax and myrtle wax, and also shoes, shirts and windows. And, according to his account books, he never wrote off a debt. In one case, he transferred a balance due by a widow to the account of her second husband.

In addition to the goods on his shelves, he offered a range of services. He would lend small sums of money and rent a scow, a horse or a slave. He would arrange for a will or a deed and charge them to the customer's account. He dealt extensively in products saleable in the West Indies: grain, lumber, shingles and nests of tubs. And in return, he imported sugar, rum, lemons and limes. John stocked everything from a cook pot to candles, from harness to handkerchiefs, from spices to stocks, and from Bibles to bed ticking.

John was the banker of the community. His store served as the news center, the repository of letters and messages. He would sell rum and whisky by the pint, quart or gallon, but never by the drink. During the Revolution when goods were scarce, he carried homespun cloth and knitted goods.

William Winder

In 1763, Nelms' store acted as the center for a petition to the Legislature to have Salisbury reincorporated with a total size of 50 acres. The petition was signed by 94 residents of Salisbury or the vicinity and submitted to the legislature. It passed the Lower House and was sent over to the Upper House, where it was marked "Will Not Pass." One name was conspicuously absent from the petition, that of William Winder.

William Winder was the only man with enough influence to have blocked it, and the only one who could have wanted to. He had lost 15 acres to Salisbury, and he was not going to lose 35 more. If Salisbury wanted to expand, the people would have to buy their lots from Winder at his price.

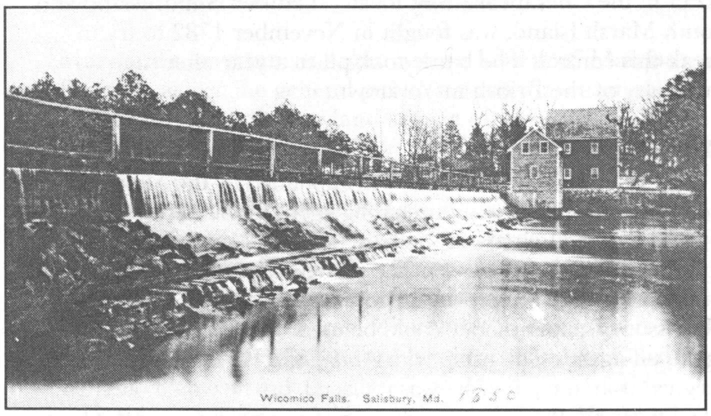
Winder had sold his first parcel of land to John Nelms in 1763. He sold others to Alexander Thomas Russell and Aaron Ready in 1767; James Buchanan in 1770; Joseph Dashiell and Henry Trader in 1771; and one to Isaac Horsey in 1772.

James Buchanan got an inn holder's license in 1772 with Josiah Polk and Littleton Dennis as his sureties. Alexander Thomas was a shoemaker; Aaron Ready a tailor; and Isaac Horsey a merchant.

With Isaac Horsey, Robert Dashiell and Joseph Dashiell, Salisbury got its next merchants. Until the Revolution, there was enough merchandise to stock their stores and enough customers to support them. With the Revolution the matter of supply became critical and some stores had to close.

The Mill at Tumblin Dam

Josiah Polk and Littleton Dennis, both lawyers, filed another bill of *Aliquod Damnum* in 1763 for a mill on the north branch of the Wicomico River. Twenty acres was the maximum for a sawmill and gristmill, but 100 acres was allowed if the bill sought to build an iron forge. Both petitions were filed by Polk and Dennis. It was not until 1770 that Governor Eden signed the taking of land for an iron forge. The jury provided for damages of 20 pounds for the taking of Winder's land. No iron forge was ever built, but the new saw and gristmills in Salisbury were.



Tumbling dam

William Venables

William Venables had also been active in real estate since the time he had bought property from Samuel Caldwell. He sold lots to Jonathan Thrift, Captain Robert Handy, John Nelms and Gustavus Scott. He also sold a lot on Dividing Street to Hamilton Austin, a tailor. This was an installment sale and was finally conveyed to him by Dr. John Venables after William's death.

The death of William Venables occurred in 1776. His will was dated March 11, 1775, and it was probated on February 2, 1776. He had two sons and two daughters. His son, William Jr., had been working with his father in the mills; and his son, John, was studying "physick" with Dr. Matthew Wilson. William Sr.'s will provided for the continuation of John's instruction with the sum of 25 pounds per year for John, and an additional equal sum to the doctor for his instruction and by 1783 John had assumed the title of doctor. William Sr.'s will divided his property between William Jr. and John, with the exception of 4 acres north of the mill dam to his daughter, Mary; and another 4 acres south of the mill dam in trust for his daughter, Betty Scogglemore, alias Nevins. Mary was the steady one; Betty, the irrepressible one, so he left her share in trust. The trustee was to see that a house was erected on Betty's 4 acres.

William Jr. was married and had a son, Matthias, who was mentioned in his grandfather's will. William Jr. was also mentioned in the 1783 tax list as being in a separate household consisting of three males and four females. By June 21, 1784, the family had been wiped out by accident or disease, because on that date his brother, John, conveyed the entire interest in the mills to John Pope Mitchell. There must have been some question of John's right to the money because there was a nine-month delay in payment. Perhaps the payment of their burial expenses was the concern.

Whatever the reason, Doctor John must have "drunk up" or lost the money gambling, because by the end of 1786 John had to file a petition of insolvency, despite having received 500 pounds on October 24, 1786, from a Dr. James Houston.

Mary Venables was a femme sole when her brother, John, conveyed away his property; but I have concluded from other evidence that she had become the second wife of Jesse Fooks, had one child, a son James, by him and then died. I have found no marriage record, but by virtue of her marriage to Jesse, he would have acquired a life estate in her property, with the remainder passing to her son, James.

Jesse did convey the tract, shown on the 1817 plat of Salisbury, to his son, James, reserving a life estate for himself. James was also the executor of his father's will, but received nothing from the will because previous provision had been made for him.

On the 4 acres south of the dam, a house had been built for Betty Venables and she lived there. She, in turn, had a daughter, Catherine, who married a John Hoffman. He was the miller at the mill, was recognized as the owner of the 4-acre piece and may have outlived his wife.

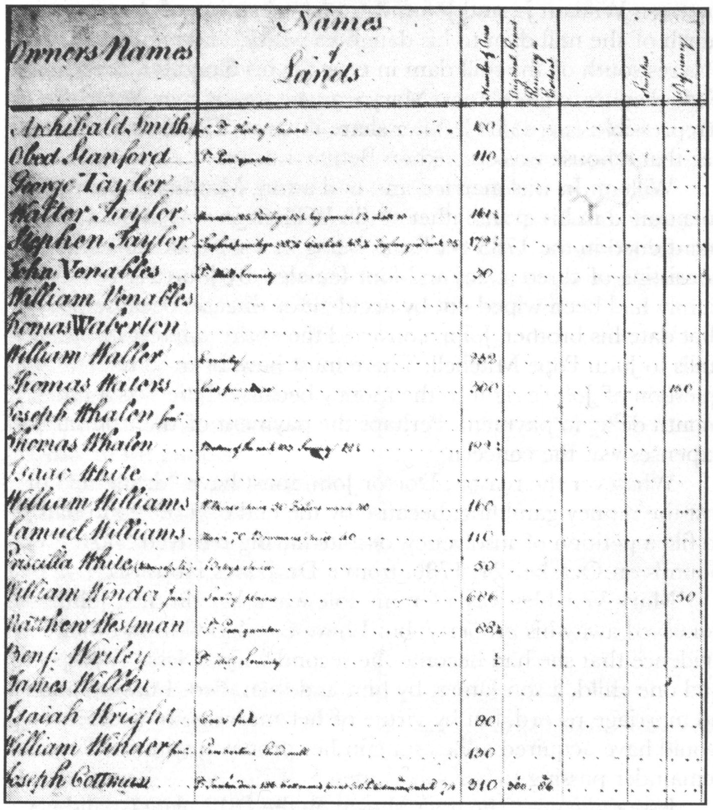
Other People and Events

Dr. James Houston first appears in the Somerset Judicial Records of 1772-74. At that time, he was not a doctor of physic nor a landowner, but a shipper. He charged James Skinner Jr. 171,616 pounds for the freight of lumber to Baltimore and sued him for it when he didn't pay.

William McBryde

There is an oral tradition in Salisbury that William McBryde met his wife in the islands of the Caribbean. She was the daughter of Captain William Murray who lived at New Nithsdale. McBryde fell in love and followed her back to Salisbury where he married her. He then opened a store near the bridge. He may have initially resided at New Nithsdale and acquired it later.

William McBryde was unfamiliar with the deadbeats of Salisbury – he filed 14 lawsuits in his first year in business. He did business as William McBryde and Co.; Hugh McBryde and Charles Phillips Hall were his partners. Alexander Roxburgh worked for him, and McBryde is credited with bringing him to Salisbury from Scotland. In a suit filed against James Linsey, a tailor, McBryde credited Linsey with five shillings for making a pair of breeches for Roxburgh.



wners Names	Names of Lands					
Archibald Smith	[illegible]	100				
Obed Stanford	[illegible]	110				
George Taylor						
Walter Taylor	[illegible]	161½				
Stephen Taylor	[illegible]	179½				
ohn Venables	[illegible]	50				
William Venables						
homas Waterton						
William Waller	[illegible]	252				
Thomas Waters	[illegible]	300				150
oseph Whalen Jun.						
Thomas Whalen	[illegible]	103				
saac White						
William Williams	[illegible]	100				
Samuel Williams	[illegible]	110				
Priscilla White	[illegible]	50				
William Winder Jun.	[illegible]	600				50
Matthew Westman	[illegible]	68½				
Benj. Wriley	[illegible]	1				
James Willen						
Isaiah Wright	[illegible]	80				
William Winder Jun.	[illegible]	150				
oseph Cottman	[illegible]	210	200. 86			

1783 Tax assessment Wicomico 100

Situation in 1774

By the close of 1774, the Town of Salisbury had spread part of the way up the hill on Bridge Street and all the way on Church Street. Salisbury had four stores, several tailors, carpenters, blacksmiths, two sets of mills, two inns, several shoemakers, an Episcopal church and a few locally owned schooners. Most people lived over their shops or had a separate shop on the property.

One other thing of note; the Polk and Dennis milldam was built of rocks, not earth. The sawmill was on the west side with the lumberyard below it; the gristmill was on the east side and there was no roadway across it.

Salisbury had five roads leading to it. One from the north from Laurel; one from the northwest from Cambridge; one from the west from Quantico; one across the Caldwell dam from Stevens Ferry and Princess Anne, which thereafter branched to Snow Hill; and one from Mitchell's bridge and the east. In addition, the Wicomico River, which had not yet silted up to become un-navigable, provided yet another means of transportation.

The shift from being a "poor relation" in a tobacco economy, to a principal player in a timber and grain economy had begun with the establishment of the watermills. Saw and gristmills were being built throughout the area. Everywhere there was enough of a fall, streams were dammed to create a sufficient flow of water. With corn, wheat, timber and shingles as crops in addition to tobacco, the economy improved and created a demand for goods, services and religion.

CHAPTER V

The Revolutionary War 1775-1783

The closing of the Port of Boston and its occupation by British troops came as a shock to the people of the Eastern Shore. It was a case of what happened there could happen here. Having the British troops quartered with the inhabitants and the whole town being held responsible for the acts of the "Indians" was shocking. But for this, the Eastern Shore may have remained solidly on the side of the King. A wave of sympathy swept the Shore, collections of food for the Bostonians were made, and a ship was chartered to carry it to them. There were few with a "serves-them-right" attitude even among the Tory sympathizers.

From that time on, the Patriot leaders spread the news of British persecution and widely publicized news of the heroic assistance of the colonials. By the time of the Declaration of Independence, the colonial government of Maryland was solidly in Patriot hands, and Governor Eden only a well-liked guest.

Tory actions and opinions had become illegal and even the expression of royalist sentiments was looked on askance. The one thing that supported the British cause in America was the British pound. It never lost its value nor its influence during the war. There was a steady, if surreptitious, flow of foodstuffs to the British from the Shore throughout the war, primarily through the Capes.

The people on the islands in the Chesapeake Bay, south of Hooper's Strait, were "Kings Men"; it was in their best economic interests to be so. They patrolled the southern half of the Chesapeake in barges, raiding the plantations on both sides, and carrying off slaves, cattle, hogs and grain. They retained control of these waters throughout the Revolution. The last marine battle of the war, the Battle of the Barges at Kedges Strait in the Chesapeake Bay, located between Smith Island and South Marsh Island, was fought in November 1782 to try to break this control. The battle took place a year after the surrender of the British in Yorktown.

William McBryde

In 1777 William McBryde was appointed by the Maryland Committee of Safety as a purchasing agent for Somerset County. He was ordered to make a purchase of peas at six shillings six pence per bushel and was sent the money to pay for them. He later had to plead with the provincial government and tell them exactly what issue of paper money could be used. McBryde had an on-again, off-again relationship with Annapolis. He sometimes resigned from the job or he was replaced, but he would often be asked to accept the job again. He would once again accept the responsibility of trying to buy goods with a depreciating dollar. He worked for the State of Maryland in 1777, 1779 and 1780. As purchasing agent, you needed the patience of Job and the equanimity of a saint during this trying period. Becoming an elder in the Presbyterian Church on September 25, 1780, McBryde must have been well-prepared for the job at hand.

Sometimes he purchased items other than foodstuffs. On July 13, 1780, he bought £88 12s worth of clothing, and the

◆◆

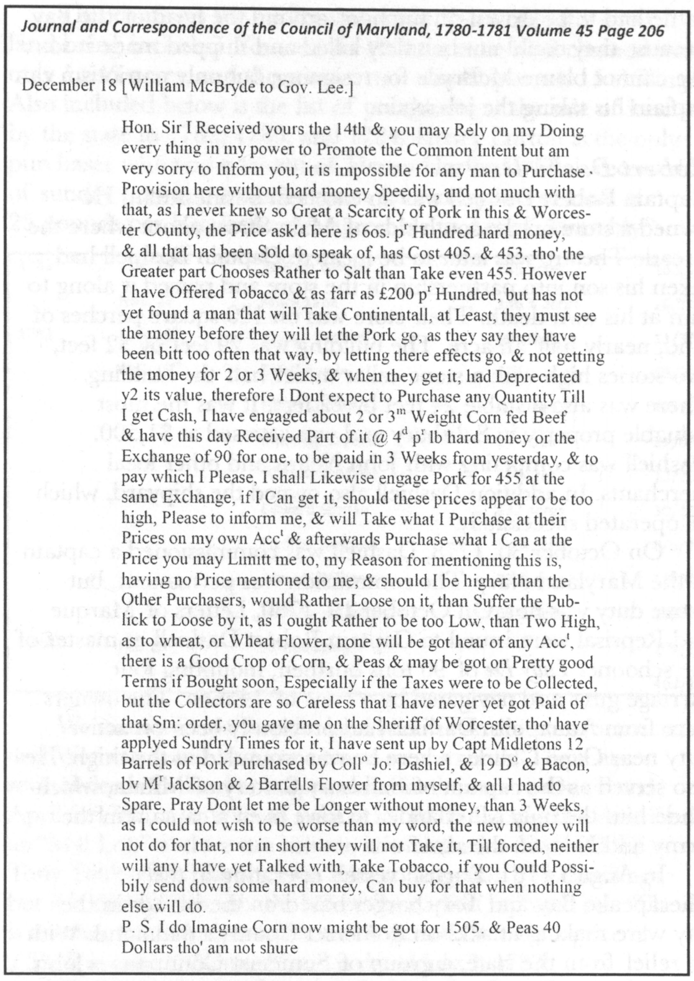
Collector of Tax for Somerset County was ordered to pay part of the bill. However, the sheriff who was Somerset's collector had not collected the tax; militia from another county was brought in to collect enough money to pay the bill.

On March 4, 1781, George Dashiell, a lieutenant of the Somerset County militia, wrote to Governor Lee, seemingly after conferring with McBryde:

> I am sorry to inform Your Excellency that it has become absolutely necessary to call out a number of our Militia to protect us from the ravages of the enemy sundry of the inhabitants of this county within a few Days past have suffered much by parties either from british Cruisers or the inhabitants of the larger Islands (tho' I believe the latter) as a number of them are well known by persons that they have plundered. A detachmt of thirty men is stationed contiguous to Green Hill warehouse to prevent their plundering it of the public tobacco a considerable quantity of which is deposited there and should an attempt be made on that house I am apprehensive they would succeed in it as I have not confidence in our Militia when call'd out by Classes Salisbury is 12 miles distant from Greenhill warehouse A place of Safety and houses sufficient for the reception of the tobacco it may if Judged necessary be conveyed by water, and will be attended with little expence and trouble, I have considered it my duty to inform your Excellency of the danger which I apprehend there is of loosing it if not timely removed. Our Militia when on duty suffers much for camp kettles it is with the greatest difficulty they can get their rations dressed and is often oblige to broil their meat as numbers of the inhabitants will neither lend nor hire them pots I request the favr of your Excellency to order a few Camp kettles to be sent to me if they can be spared. The company ordered from Dorset to compell the payment of the taxes in pocomoke and Annemessix Hundred have this day come into the County. The people in this county will not enter as select Militia men, we were not able to procure a single man out of either of the Battalions.

Maryland's government began issuing Letters of Marque and Reprisal, as per the general public statutory law and public local law of the state of Maryland as part of a declaration of war. One was issued in June 1778 to Thomas Stiles, master of the schooner *Beggars Benison*, mounting four swivel guns and having a crew of seven men. It was owned by John Craig, co-owner of the tavern in Salisbury, Hugh McBryde, William McBryde and Charles Phillyshill – the partners in William McBryde and Co. On December 19, 1778, Letters of Marque and Reprisal were issued to Jesse Weatherby "Commander of the Schooner *Nelly and Polly* 80 Tons burthen mounting 6 Swivels and 8 small Arms, belonging to Hugh and William McBride, James Houston [a Salisbury physician] and William Henry of the State of Maryland."

There is a record that McBryde declined re-appointment in 1781, but since he later acted in this capacity, he must have reconsidered that decision. On January 12, 1781, McBryde wrote to Governor Thomas Sim Lee to tell him that part of the flour he had purchased for the state the previous May "is still in my granary, but some of it is turned a little sour, though good when I purchased it." He says that "vessels can be got in Salisbury as cheap as anywhere to carry anything in the Bay."



Journal and Correspondence of the Council of Maryland, 1780-1781 Volume 45 Page 206

December 18 [William McBryde to Gov. Lee.]

Hon. Sir I Received yours the 14th & you may Rely on my Doing every thing in my power to Promote the Common Intent but am very sorry to Inform you, it is impossible for any man to Purchase Provision here without hard money Speedily, and not much with that, as I never knew so Great a Scarcity of Pork in this & Worcester County, the Price ask'd here is 6os. p^{r} Hundred hard money, & all that has been Sold to speak of, has Cost 405. & 453. tho' the Greater part Chooses Rather to Salt than Take even 455. However I have Offered Tobacco & as farr as £200 p^{r} Hundred, but has not yet found a man that will Take Continentall, at Least, they must see the money before they will let the Pork go, as they say they have been bitt too often that way, by letting there effects go, & not getting the money for 2 or 3 Weeks, & when they get it, had Depreciated y2 its value, therefore I Dont expect to Purchase any Quantity Till I get Cash, I have engaged about 2 or 3^{m} Weight Corn fed Beef & have this day Received Part of it @ 4^{d} p^{r} lb hard money or the Exchange of 90 for one, to be paid in 3 Weeks from yesterday, & to pay which I Please, I shall Likewise engage Pork for 455 at the same Exchange, if I Can get it, should these prices appear to be too high, Please to inform me, & will Take what I Purchase at their Prices on my own Acc^{t} & afterwards Purchase what I Can at the Price you may Limitt me to, my Reason for mentioning this is, having no Price mentioned to me, & should I be higher than the Other Purchasers, would Rather Loose on it, than Suffer the Publick to Loose by it, as I ought Rather to be too Low, than Two High, as to wheat, or Wheat Flower, none will be got hear of any Acc^{t}, there is a Good Crop of Corn, & Peas & may be got on Pretty good Terms if Bought soon, Especially if the Taxes were to be Collected, but the Collectors are so Careless that I have never yet got Paid of that Sm: order, you gave me on the Sheriff of Worcester, tho' have applyed Sundry Times for it, I have sent up by Capt Midletons 12 Barrels of Pork Purchased by Coll^{o} Jo: Dashiel, & 19 D^{o} & Bacon, bv M^{r} Jackson & 2 Barrells Flower from myself, & all I had to Spare, Pray Dont let me be Longer without money, than 3 Weeks, as I could not wish to be worse than my word, the new money will not do for that, nor in short they will not Take it, Till forced, neither will any I have yet Talked with, Take Tobacco, if you Could Possibily send down some hard money, Can buy for that when nothing else will do.

P. S. I do Imagine Corn now might be got for 1505. & Peas 40 Dollars tho' am not shure

William McBride correspondence

McBryde's new appointment as Commissary of Purchases for Somerset County took place on December 2, 1781, "in the room of Henry Jackson [of Princess Anne]." On December 18, 1781, McBryde wrote Governor Lee: "it is impossible for any man to purchase provision here without 'hard money.'" He goes on to say, "I never knew so great a scarcity of Pork in this [Somerset] and Worcester County, I have offered tobacco and as far as £200 per hundred, but have not yet found a man that will take Continental, at least they must see the money before they will let the pork go, as they say they have been bit too often that way be letting there (sic) effects go, and not getting the money for two or three weeks and when they did get it, it had depreciated one half the value." He continues, "if you could possibly send down some hard money, can buy for that when nothing else will do."

There also was some trading between purchasing agents; Peter Chaille of Worcester needed salt for salting pork and beef and McBryde, who had some on hand, was ordered to deliver to him whatever McBryde had on hand. At the end of December, McBryde wrote to the Council that he was sending 46,420 pounds of beef by Captain Hardy to the Head of Elk by land. Mr. Crissell reported that he received 8,709 pounds less than he was billed for. Whether or how the shortage was accounted for is unknown.

The job of purchasing agent was onerous. Shortages in shipments, the question of the condition of what had been left too long, the ravages of raids by the enemy, and the fact that cattle had to be driven on the hoof around the head of the Bay because they could not be safely killed and shipped made it so. We cannot blame McBryde for resigning, but only patriotism can explain his taking the job again.

Robert Dashiell

Captain Robert Dashiell was an excellent businessman. He owned a store on the south side of Main Street about where the Arcade Theatre was later to be located. Captain Dashiell had taken his son into partnership in the store and passed it along to him at his own death. Their store was on 120 square perches of land, nearly half an acre. The building was 29 feet by 32 feet, two stories high with a stone cellar under half the building. There was also a stable 24 feet by 12 feet. It was the most valuable property in Salisbury and was assessed at $1,500. Dashiell was competing with John Nelms and other local merchants. In addition Dashiell also owned the shipyard, which he operated successfully.

On October 30, 1778, Dashiell was commissioned a captain in the Maryland Navy. The commission was permanent, but active duty was not. On October 19, 1780, Letters of Marque and Reprisal were issued to Captain Robert Dashiell as master of the schooner *Lady Lee* of 90 tons burthen, mounting four carriage guns and navigated by a crew of 14 men. The owners were from Annapolis. Dashiell had previously been on active duty near Cape Charles where he was wounded in the thigh. He also served as the captain of Salisbury Battery of Militia, which made him the only Marylander to have been a captain in the Army and Navy in the same war.

In August 1781, English vessels operating in the Chesapeake Bay and Tory barges based on the islands in the Bay were making attacks on Somerset County's mainland. With no relief from the state, a group of Somerset Countians – John Done, George Day Scott, Gillis Polk and Robert Dashiell – commissioned a barge for local defense to be built by Dashiell's shipyard. She was to be 54 feet in the keel, with a 14-foot beam and a 3-foot depth of hold. She was to have 32 oars and mount up to 10 swivels. Not having received the support or "encouragement from our neighbors as we at first expected, and cash and materials being very scarce" they had to sell the vessel to the State of Maryland at cost. The offer stated that "The hull completely finished and seal'd from the keel up, with a platform forward, and also aft with sliding carriages ready to mount two, four or six pound guns, also five swivel stocks on each side strapt, and four ammunition chests." The bill came to 230 pounds. The offer was accepted by the State, and the newly built barge sailed to Annapolis to be fitted out and to have her guns installed. Robert Dashiell, already a captain with active service, was to be placed in command of the barge, which was to be christened *The Terrible*.

Dashiell commanded *The Terrible* at the Battle of the Barges under Commodore Wally (Whaley). Wally was killed and *The Terrible* was the first vessel to flee the scene without ever firing a shot. Dashiell was later tried for his conduct at the battle, but the Court of Inquiry could not reach a verdict. They let the commissions of all the captains lapse and then re-commissioned all of them except Dashiell.

After the trial was over, Dashiell returned to Salisbury and resumed storekeeping and running the shipyard. As the shipyard owner, he sued George Dashiell for a boat 62 feet in length and secured judgment in the amount of 349 pounds 1 shilling 5 pence. Robert Dashiell died on March 4, 1814.

Alexander Roxburgh

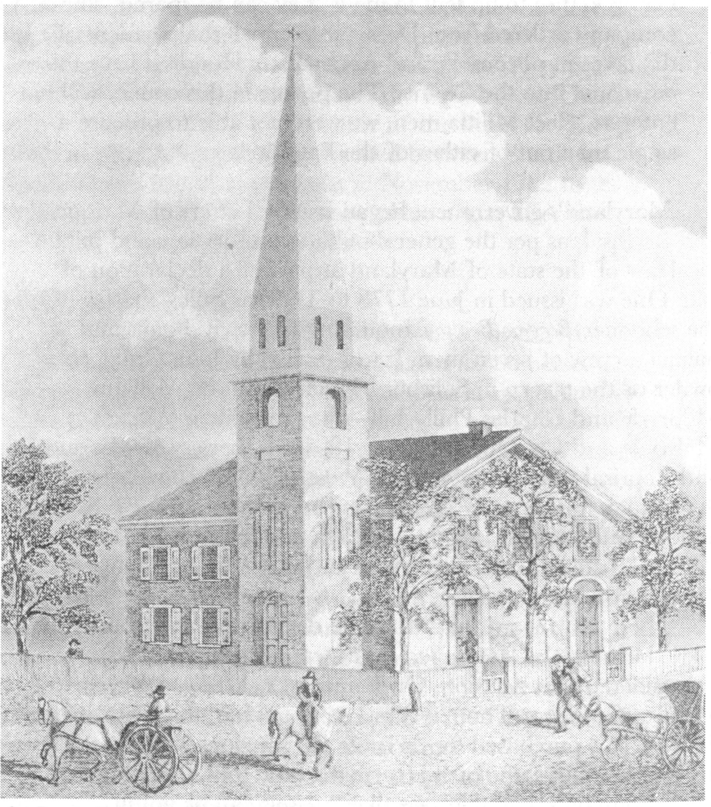
In Salisbury, Alexander Roxburgh is regarded as its quintessential hero of the Maryland Line in the Revolution. Born in Scotland, he was brought to this country by William McBryde and married a local girl, Frances Handy. On January 3, 1776, he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the 3rd company of the Battalion of Regular Troops stationed at Annapolis. He was commissioned a captain in the Continental Army on December 10, 1776, and was promoted to major on April 1, 1780. At one time, he served with Levin Winder in the 4th Regiment. Roxburgh served under General Nathaniel Greene in the Southern Army and fought at the Battle of Camden, among other places. He was discharged from the army on November 15, 1783, and returned to Salisbury.

No record of Roxburgh's occupation after the war could be found, but he may have been engaged in either the mercantile or the insurance business. He left his one surviving child, Elizabeth, well-provided for when he died in 1807.

The First Occupation

On February 6, 1777, it was reported to the Continental Congress "that Tories have been gathering in Sussex, Worcester and Somerset for several days. They have 250 men collected at Parker's Mill (now Leonard's) about nine miles from Salisbury and it is reported they have three field pieces from the Roebuck (a British ship). Colonel George Dashiell had 150 men [all local militia] under his command at Salisbury and is to be reinforced Monday [February 10] by eight companies."

General Smallwood arrived in Salisbury on February 10 with



St. Peter's Episcopal Church

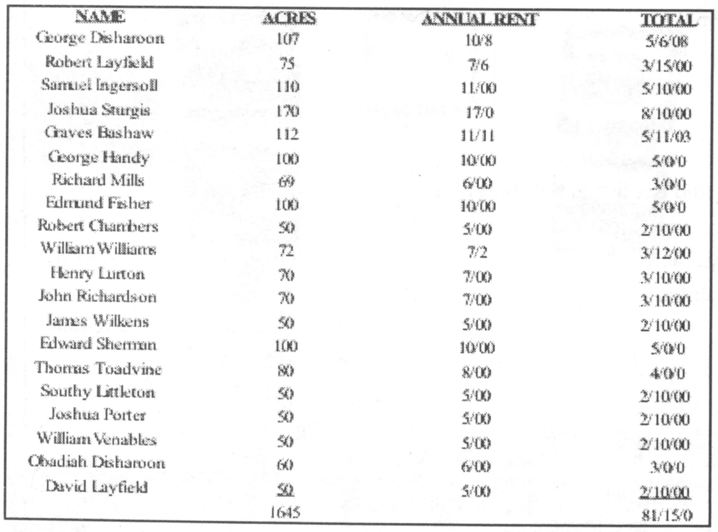
980 regular troops and played it cool. On February 11, he proclaimed an automatic pardon to the assembled Tories, and when the regular troops arrived, the Tories dispersed. The regular troops were to remain in camp until December 10 when their enlistments expired, but by that time the danger had passed and the Tories had signed professions of loyalty. The only casualty was one of the American regulars, who were quartered in St. Peter's Episcopal Church. He fell off the balcony while drunk and broke his neck. Thus ended the first occupation of Salisbury.

Wicomico Manor

William Winder presumably remained the steward of the Wicomico Manor until September 29, 1774, when it became illegal to collect rents and forward them to England. From that time on the tenants got "a free ride" by not paying rent. Henry Harford, the Baltimore heir, was adjudged an enemy alien, and his properties all over the state were declared forfeit. The Commissioners to Preserve Confiscated Property took no action regarding Harford's properties, Wicomico Manor or what was left of Wolcote Manor after the Mason-Dixon Line was established, until 1781.

The ownership of the proprietorial land could be an item of negotiation between the British and Americans at the peace talks. When no negotiations were forthcoming, the Commissioners sent an agent to Salisbury to survey the situation and to make arrangements for an auction of the land. The tenants of Wicomico Manor got wind of what he was up to and threatened him with bodily harm if he persisted. They got busy with their legislators, and an Act of Assembly was passed on April 25, 1782, permitting the tenants to buy their lands at the price of £25 per acre – the last offer they had made to Lord Baltimore.

In the meantime, Henry Harford had filed a claim with the British office for Loyalist claims. He had filed a claim for uncollected rents from September 29, 1774, to September 29, 1784, as follows (shown in pounds/ shillings/ pence):



NAME	ACRES	ANNUAL RENT	TOTAL
George Disharoon	107	10/8	5/6/08
Robert Layfield	75	7/6	3/15/00
Samuel Ingersoll	110	11/00	5/10/00
Joshua Sturgis	170	17/0	8/10/00
Graves Bashaw	112	11/11	5/11/03
George Handy	100	10/00	5/0/0
Richard Mills	69	6/00	3/0/0
Edmund Fisher	100	10/00	5/0/0
Robert Chambers	50	5/00	2/10/00
William Williams	72	7/2	3/12/00
Henry Lurton	70	7/00	3/10/00
John Richardson	70	7/00	3/10/00
James Wilkens	50	5/00	2/10/00
Edward Sherman	100	10/00	5/0/0
Thomas Toadvine	80	8/00	4/0/0
Southy Littleton	50	5/00	2/10/00
Joshua Porter	50	5/00	2/10/00
William Venables	50	5/00	2/10/00
Obadiah Disharoon	60	6/00	3/0/0
David Layfield	50	5/00	2/10/00
	1645		81/15/0

This confirms the earlier statement about only the good land being included. You can see that the total land claimed was only 1,645 acres, and the annual rent was 81 pounds 15 shillings. Also included below is the list of purchasers at the sale of land by the state in 1782, 1783, and 1784. Henry Lurton is the only purchaser who was a tenant of Henry Harford. "Cash received of sundry persons at sundry times for sundry lots of land at 25 pounds per hundred acres agreeable to Act of Assembly."

1782	Nov. 19th	William Winder	735 acres	183/15/0
	Nov. 27	Frank Lank	106 ¼ acres	26/11/3
1783	May 10th	Joseph Dashiell	(erased)	11/3/00
	May 19th	Elijah Austin	104 ½ acres	26/2/6
		Henry Lurton	70 acres	17/10/0
		Smulling Layfield	84 acres	21/0/0
		William Williams	50 acres	12/10/00
		Edward Sirman	122 acres	30/1080
		George Sackwell	33 ¼ acres	8/6/03
		Samuel Williams	72 acres	18/0/0
		John Nelms for self	65 ¼ acres	16/6/3
1784	Feb 11th	Joshua Sturgis		102/7/6
				462/18/9

We cannot forget that the land was in two counties (Somerset and Worcester) and that some tracts were in both. There are several deeds for land not represented in the report. One dated April 5, 1782, is to William Adams for 61 1/4 acres. It is described as "Mill Lot," and we can assume it is for the land around the Tony Tank Mill. The price for this property was £15 6 shillings, but it is dated seven months before the earliest reported sale. There is another for 213 acres to Samuel Ingersoll. It states a price of £53. It is called "Support" and is dated July 3, 1783.

The tenants of the Manor who joined in the petition to the legislature to purchase Manor land were William Adams, Elijah Austin, William Butler, Rachel Chambers, George Disharoon, William Handy, Samuel Ingersoll, Francis Lank, Robert Layfield, George Sackwell, Henry Lurton, Richard Mills, Jonathan Shockley, Jonathan Sturgis, William Tull, Benjamin Wales, Samuel Williams and William Williams Sr. The tenants were from both Somerset and Worcester counties, and there are deeds recorded in both counties. The unusual thing is that every tract is given a name like an original patent was. The tract name is retained and the fact that the land was part of the Manor is forgotten.

Miscellaneous

After the resignations of both Dashiell and McBryde from their commissions, the officers of the Salisbury Battery on May 27, 1779, were: James Bennett in the room of William Winder Jr., Captain; Thomas Skinner, 1st Lieutenant; David Vance, 2nd lieutenant; and William Byng, Ensign.

John Nelms, a Salisbury merchant, sold goods to the fledgling State of Maryland and received two notes. Whether the purchase was commandeered or voluntary is unknown.

The way Captain Robert Lemmon came to Salisbury from Baltimore County is interesting. He was given command of the Sinepuxent Salt Works at an inlet near where Ocean City now is. The inlet is now closed, but a salt works was located there in the 18th century. Lemmon requested that eight Hessian prisoners be assigned to work at making salt. Later, he came to Salisbury, and after Nelms' death, married his widow.

On August 20, 1778, William Byng bought the lot of Gustavus Scott on Church Street across from St. Peter's Church; the deed says "where he [Byng] is already living." Although property transfers practically ceased in Salisbury during the Revolution, John Nelms bought a property from William Venables by a bond of conveyance.

Tax List of Salisbury

After the peace treaty ending the American Revolution had been signed in 1783, the State of Maryland commissioned a tax list. There were at least 75 whites and 25 blacks then living in Salisbury.

Others listed include: John Reddish Jr., no property, one male, two females; William Sutton, no property, two males and one female; Thomas Shiles, one male, no females; George Taylor, no property, three males, four females.

The Worcester portion of Salisbury includes Benjamin Wriley, 80 acres of Mill Dam and William, who had the remaining interest in the 4 acres as his mother's heir; the deed gave him the exclusive interest in the other land around it. James Wriley was the executor of his father's will, but received nothing under it, because other provisions had been made for him.

In 1801, the trustees for Colonel Peter Chaille conveyed to Jesse and James Fooks, the property called "Race Ground" which was the patent name for the land John Venables had sold to Dr. James Houston. This deed brought title of the two tracts together. On April 3, 1788, Dr. James Houston bought the land that John Venables had inherited from his father on October 24, 1786, and another lot out of the William Venables Jr. tract on the south side of Bridge Street. Houston was apprehensive about the validity of both titles, so he had them re-patented by the state. He called the first property "Race Ground" and the second "Chance." When Houston died, he left no heirs and the land described in both deeds and the patents escheated to the state.

Dr. James Houston was an interesting character. He had married Nancy, the widow of Bartholomew Kennedy, on May 25, 1795, and, as her husband, acquired a life estate in the property adjoining Chance. Nancy had a minor son, so it was not a life estate in the whole property. A John McKim Jr. obtained a judgment against Houston for £173 4 shillings six pence levied on both properties in 1801. Houston had built a brick building on Chance and the sheriff sold it to Captain Robert Dashiell, but did not get an offer on the Kennedy property. But, the following year, when the sheriff re-offered Houston's life interest, he sold it to John Rider for $20.

Part of the Somerset portion of Salisbury's tax list is shown below:

Name	Property	Males	Females
Hamilton Austin	1/2 acre of Mill Security	3	2
William Bing, Salisbury Survey (town)	3/4 acre	2	2
Stephen Christopher	3/4 acre of Mill Security	2	2
William Dymock	1-1/2 acres of Mill Security	3	3
Robert Dashiell	3/4 acre of Mill Security	2	4
Donnock Dennis of Pemberton's Good Will	(amount of land faded)	2	2
Abraham Gollett	1 acre of Mill Security	1	2
Dr. James Houston	1/2 acre of Mill Security	4	0
William McBryde	1/2 acre of Mill Security (did not live in Salisbury)		
James McLeary	1/4 acre of Mill Security	2	4
John Nelms, Pemberton's Good Will	10 acres and Mill Security 1 acre	5 males	3 females
Joseph and Gillis Polk, Partner's Good Luck	50 acres (did not live in Salisbury)		
Richard Richards	1 acre of Mill Security	1 male	1 female
Thomas Skinner Pemberton's Good Will	1/2 acre	5	1
George Stevens	1/2 acre Mill Security	1	0
John Venables	30 acres of Mill Security	1	1
William Venables		3	4
Benjamin Wriley	1/2 acre of Mill Security	2	3
William Winder Sr.	130 acres of Pemberton's Good Will (did not live in Salisbury)		

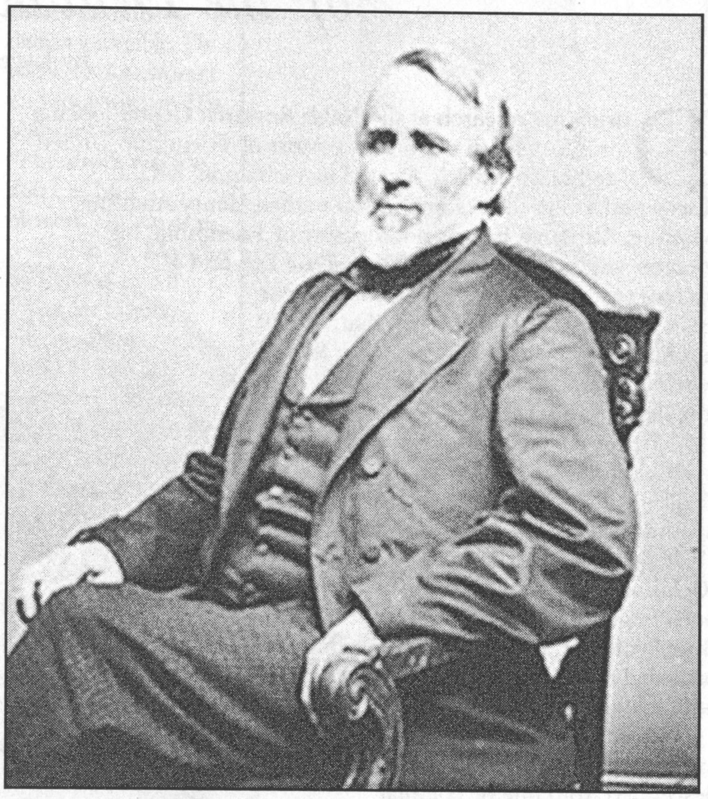
Rails Across Delmarva – Nabb Research Center Exhibit

By Amber Riley

There are many of ways to travel in today's society: busses, cars, bikes, planes and even boats; however, the one type of transportation that is not recognized enough is the train. Railway systems played a major role in the 19th and 20th centuries, not only throughout the Delmarva region but throughout the entire country. Recognizing the importance of Delmarva's railway system, the Edward H. Nabb Research Center chose "Rails Across Delmarva" as the theme for its gallery exhibit that was open to the public and students through December 4. Photographs, memorabilia, posters, and maps showing the early train routes told the story.

Transportation has always played a major role in the everyday lives of Americans. By the mid-1800s, steamboats and trains were being used to transport people and goods. The New Castle and Frenchtown Turnpike and Rail Road, the first train in the Delmarva region, was built in 1831. This train traveled from New Castle, DE, to Old Frenchtown Wharf in Maryland. In the 1830s, Littleton Dennis Teackle, a prominent businessman in Princess Anne, spearheaded the building of the Eastern Shore Railroad by purchasing rights-of-way of a route going to Princess Anne. The planned railroad led from Mardela Springs to Princess Anne and bypassed Salisbury altogether. However, downturns in the economy prevented that road from being built.

The Eastern Shore Railroad, the first railroad to reach Salisbury, finally arrived in July 1860. Due to the high speed of 12 miles per hour, seats were limited to boys and men; some thought it was too dangerous for women to ride. Each passenger paid 25 cents to ride from the Delaware and Maryland state line to Salisbury. Expansion of the line was halted due to the Civil War.



John Woodland Crisfield

When the war ended, John Woodland Crisfield, a Somerset County, MD, attorney, was the president of the Eastern Shore Railroad. Crisfield oversaw the extension of the railroad from Salisbury to Somers Cove in Somerset County. The economy of the area and Somers Cove, in particular, was greatly improved by the presence of the railroad; the town and its citizens prospered. In 1872, when the town was formally incorporated as a city, it was renamed Crisfield in appreciation of Mr. Crisfield's efforts.

The new train system in the region provided quick transport of people and freight. Goods shipped by train could be delivered throughout the eastern seaboard and beyond. Towns were even built along the rail line; existing towns and tourist spots like Ocean City flourished. The economy and lifestyle of the entire region were influenced by the railways.

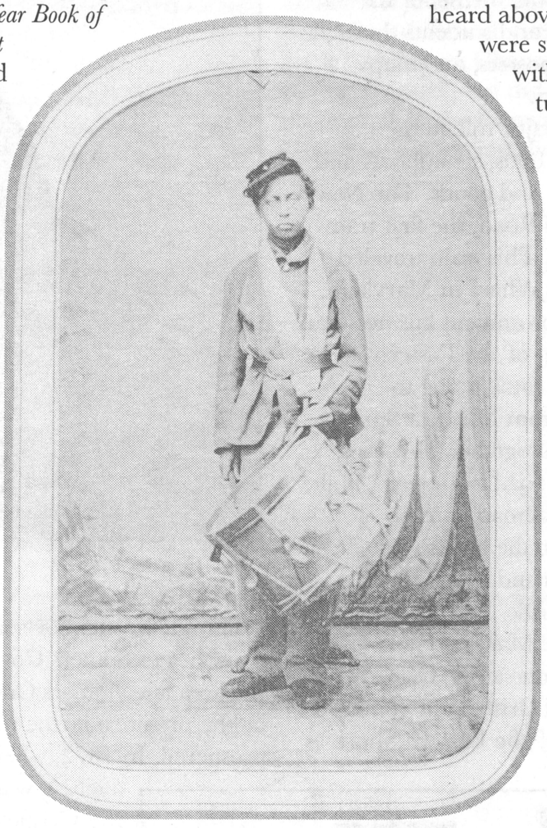
The "Rails Across Delmarva" exhibit was truly enjoyable and helped the viewers understand how transportation, trains in particular, impacted the lives of people in the 19th and 20th century.

Amber Riley, a communication arts student, interned at the Nabb Research Center during the fall 2015 semester.

Henry Augustus Monroe of the Delaware Conference

By Joyce Burrell

During my research at the Nabb Research Center looking for information on former pastors of Friendship United Methodist Church, located in Wetipquin, MD, I discovered a very interesting person named Henry Augustus Monroe. Although he was not a pastor of Friendship, his memoir written in the *Official Journal and Year Book of the Delaware Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church* was so unusual that I could not help but investigate him further, for he was truly an apostle of industry, intelligence and integrity.


Private Henry Monroe, musician c. 1863
Courtesy Massachusetts Historical Society

Henry Augustus Monroe was born September 3, 1849, in New Bedford, MA, the son of Augustus W. Monroe and Sarah Anthony Monroe. His father had been born in Richmond, VA, and his mother was born September 2, 1819, in Burrillville, RI. It was her memoir that provided more details about Henry's family life.

Sarah Monroe came from an exalted ancestry; she was directly descended from one of colonial governors of Connecticut on her father's side, while also being a descendant of the Wampanoag Indian tribe through her grandmother, who claimed that "the blood of King Phillip's family ran in her veins." King Phillip or Metacomet was a leader of the Wampanoag tribe during the First Indian War of 1675-78 or "King Phillip's War" between the Native American inhabitants of New England and the English colonists and their Native American allies.

The Monroe home was a frequent meeting place for many abolitionists of the day. Growing up, Henry was surrounded by famous abolitionists such as Frederick Douglass, Lewis Hayden, William C. Nell and Captain Daniel Drayton of the schooner *Pearl*, of anti-slavery fame. It was largely due to the influences of these men and the teachings of his father that Henry decided to volunteer, at the age of 13, for service in the first colored regiment in the Civil War, the 54th Massachusetts. When his mother was asked why she allowed him to enlist at such a tender age, she replied: "I am no better than any other mother, my husband is too old, but if my boy wants to enlist, it is all we can do to help free the slaves."

Private Henry Monroe was a drummer with the 54th Company C and served in the regiment from the time he enlisted in February 1863 until he was mustered out in August 1865. Even though he was only 13 years old, he was tasked with directing maneuvers for the Massachusetts Voluntary Infantry Regiment during the ill-fated attack on Fort Wagner on July 18, 1863. Standing at his commanding officer's side, Henry beat out instructions on his drum: advance, halt, retreat, cease fire. As the sound of the drums was one of the few things that could be heard above the sound of gunfire, drummer boys were strategic targets for marksmen, for without their cadences the army would turn to chaos. While not in battle, Henry would carry water, look after the horses, gather wood and bury the dead.

After the war, Henry returned to Boston where he continued his education, graduating at the head of his class from Boston High School where he was the only African-American student. While in school, he was a member of the Greek and Philosophical Society conducted by Dr. Millard. Henry's education served him well. In 1867, at the age of 19, he was asked by the Freedmen's Bureau to organize schools for the Colored people in Somerset County on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. He began his work in Fairmount, MD, which was a momentous task because at the time there was intensely bitter opposition from the white majority to the education of the black man. Often female teachers were beaten, and all newcomers were deterred, but this young man was not frightened or pushed away. In addition to teaching on the Eastern Shore, Henry edited the first African-American newspaper on the Eastern Shore, titled *The Standard Bearer*.

On January 1, 1868, Henry married Christina Wilson, daughter of William T. and Mary J. Wilson of Upper Fairmount, MD. The couple had eight children together. A few short years later, in 1873, Henry and his family moved to Baltimore, MD, where he was appointed Inspector of Customs by President Ulysses S. Grant at the Port of Baltimore.

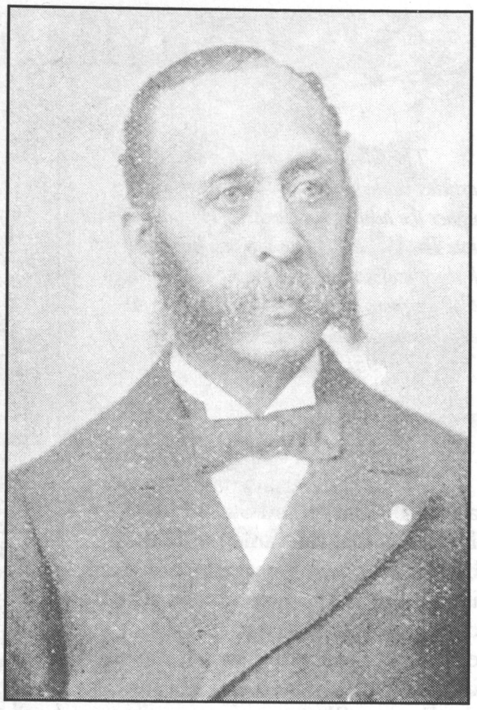
Henry was given a trial membership in the Delaware Conference, being admitted in full membership and ordained a deacon in 1880. His first appointment was to the Green Hill and Kingston Circuit in Maryland, serving there for three years. He was also a pastor at Waugh Church in Cambridge, MD, for three years and Ezion Methodist Episcopal Church in Wilmington, DE, for three years. After serving on the Delaware Conference for many years, Monroe transferred to the New York Conference and served St. Marks Church in New York City. While serving in

New York, Henry devoted himself to mastering the study of history and literature, often giving lectures in the public schools. His efforts paid off when Wiley University conferred a Doctorate of Divinity upon him. In 1884, the Delaware Conference editor wrote the following in regard to Henry Monroe:

> Whereas the Rev. Henry A. Monroe has been for eighteen years connected with and engaged in the various education movements within the bounds of the Delaware Conference, such as day school teacher and instructor of children, also the Sabbath school, and whereas, the Rev. Henry A. Monroe is the first man of this race to shoulder the responsibility of sustaining a press and paper on this side of the Chesapeake, and whereas, the members of the Delaware Conference having been greatly benefitted by the circulation of the paper edited and printed by him and whereas the annual meeting of the joint stock association did by their recent actions, relieved Rev. Monroe from the responsibility of editorship of the Conference Standard and did elect in his stead Rev. A. R. Shockley.

In May 1888, Henry's wife Christina passed away, and in 1890, he married Madeline Carter from Georgia. In 1899, at the end of his term at the New York Conference, he returned to the Delaware Conference. Dr. Monroe was appointed to Zoar Church in Philadelphia, PA. After six years of service, he was reappointed Presiding Elder, retiring in 1910. He was then appointed to Ferry Avenue Church in Camden, NJ, but, due to feeble health, he retired in 1911.

Dr. Monroe served the church at large in various ways. He was a member of the Centennial Anniversary Christmas Conference in 1884 and a member of three successive General Conferences in 1896, 1900 and 1904. In each he played his part well; for 24 years he was a member of the parent Board of Foreign Missions, he was also a member of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension for fourteen years. Dr. Monroe also served as Delaware Conference secretary and presiding elder under several bishops.



Dr. Monroe was an able dispenser of truth. His style was ornate, his diction chaste and his delivery forcible. He was a tireless worker and soul-winner. His obituary stated: "Hundreds will rise and call him blessed." It was at a revival in St. Mark's, conducted by Dr. Monroe, where nearly 400 were brought into the kingdom. He was a lover of his race. He gave the best he had for them, setting an example of devotion to duty and self-sacrificing love. He fought for their freedom; ever vigilant, he was quick to discern and resented anything that looked like discrimination and oppression. Dr. Henry Augustus Monroe passed away July 16, 1912, in Philadelphia, PA.

Monroe is just one of the many African-American ministers whose story is related in the journals of the Delaware Annual Conference. In a time when African-American contributions were seldom publicly celebrated, the journal recognized their significant works.

Joyce Burrell, a member of the Nabb Research Center and Preservation Trust of Wicomico, is an advocate for historical preservation and a frequent researcher at the Nabb Research Center.

Volunteer Corner

Volunteer Cynthia Simpson is transcribing Hotel Orient guest register.

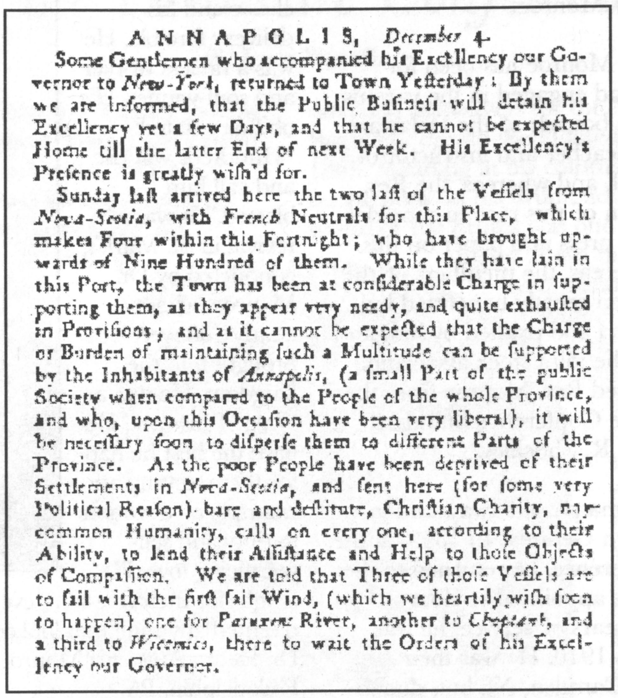
Our volunteers have been working on a variety of activities that include scanning archival materials, docenting exhibits, transcribing ledgers and diaries, data entry, and family history research. We are grateful for their help and dedication.

Community volunteers include Joe Ballou, Jefferson Boyer, Jane Burt, Bill Collision, Aleta Davis, Ruth Epstein, Albert Gordy, Lee Ann Griffith, Cathy Hudson, Juliann McNelia, Dan Parsons, Paul Perunko, Marvia Perreault, Nancy Robertson, Cynthia Simpson, Emily Stamm, Mary Starnes, Jan Taylor and Barbara Welsh.

Few Acadians Found Way to Peninsula

By William H. Wroten Jr.

The following is one of a series of articles published in the Salisbury Times *under the heading "Delmarva Heritage" by the late Dr. William Wroten when he was a history professor at Salisbury State Teachers College (now Salisbury University). This article was originally published on June 27, 1958.*



ANNAPOLIS, *December* 4.

Some Gentlemen who accompanied his Excellency our Governor to *New-York*, returned to Town Yeſterday: By them we are informed, that the Public Buſineſs will detain his Excellency yet a few Days, and that he cannot be expected Home till the latter End of next Week. His Excellency's Preſence is greatly wiſh'd for.

Sunday laſt arrived here the two laſt of the Veſſels from *Nova-Scotia*, with *French* Neutrals for this Place, which makes Four within this Fortnight; who have brought upwards of Nine Hundred of them. While they have lain in this Port, the Town has been at conſiderable Charge in ſupporting them, as they appear very needy, and quite exhauſted in Proviſions; and as it cannot be expected that the Charge or Burden of maintaining ſuch a Multitude can be ſupported by the Inhabitants of *Annapolis*, (a ſmall Part of the public Society when compared to the People of the whole Province, and who, upon this Occaſion have been very liberal), it will be neceſſary ſoon to diſperſe them to different Parts of the Province. As the poor People have been deprived of their Settlements in *Nova-Scotia*, and ſent here (for ſome very Political Reaſon) bare and deſtitute, Chriſtian Charity, nay common Humanity, calls on every one, according to their Ability, to lend their Aſſiſtance and Help to thoſe Objects of Compaſſion. We are told that Three of thoſe Veſſels are to ſail with the firſt fair Wind, (which we heartily wiſh ſoon to happen) one for *Patuxent* River, another to *Choptank*, and a third to *Wicomico*, there to wait the Orders of his Excellency our Governor.

Maryland Gazette, December 4, 1755

The defeat of General Braddock by the French and Indians on July 9, 1755, just across the Maryland State Line in Pennsylvania, the same battle that brought fame to George Washington, is probably well-known by all school children and many adults. The excitement and panic which it caused in western Maryland was not felt on the Eastern Shore.

But the year 1755 saw in Maryland, as a result of the French and Indian War, many of the unfortunate Acadians, whose story in American history has been told in prose and verse. Remember Longfellow's "Evangeline"?

By the Treaty of Utrecht, 1713, which ended the War of Spanish Succession, the French Neutrals or Acadians of Nova Scotia came under the rule of Great Britain. These peaceful and hardworking people were permitted to retain their land provided they did not aid France in regaining the territory and they did not bear arms against the English.

But in the 1750s when trouble flared again between the French and English, many of the Acadians refused to take an oath of allegiance to the English King, and after the capture of the French Fort Beaujeu, where a number of Acadians were found in the garrison, there followed the tragic removal of these people from Nova Scotia. Despite their virtues, they were considered a constant menace to the English colonies in North America. So now about 7,000 Acadians were to be distributed between New Hampshire and Georgia.

These French pioneers were notified that they must leave the province and take with them only their money (of which there was very, very little) and household utensils. Their farmland and all the livestock thereon was to be forfeited to the English crown.

They were not permitted to leave on their own accord but were rounded up and driven to the ships like prisoners of war. The few who managed to escape to the nearby forests must have died or suffered greatly before they were captured for all food supply was cut off and winter was approaching.

In October 1755, four ships from Nova Scotia, carrying a little over 900 men, women and children, were destined for Maryland. Two of the vessels, the *Dolphin* and the *Ranger*, had respectively 56 and 83 more passengers than their tonnage allowance. The passengers on the *Dolphin* were reported to be "sickley, occasioned by being to much crowded, 40 lying on deck"; and those on the *Ranger*, "Sickly & their water very bad." Other records state that "The vessels in general are too much crowded; their allowance of provisions short being 1 lb. of beef, 5 lb. flour and 2 lb. bread per man per week and too small a quantity to that allowance to carry them to the parts they are bound to especially this season of the year; and their water very bad."

By December 1755, the four vessels had arrived at Annapolis. They were still not to find any comfort for no arrangements to accommodate them had been prepared. The famous Daniel Dulany wrote on December 9, 1755, that they had almost eaten up the place. "What is to be done with these people. God Knows ... As there is no provision for them, they have been supported by private subscription. Political consideration may make this a prudent step for anything I know, and perhaps their behavior may have deservedly brought these sufferings upon them," but Dulany still could not help feeling for their distress.

At first, the Acadians were eyed suspiciously and support was grudgingly given by the people of Maryland. It was certainly a difficult time for French Catholics to appeal to colonial sympathies. French and Indians so recently had been associated with bloodshed and cruelty on the frontier, that there was little love lost for either. The outbreak of war between France and England, which actually had its beginnings in the colonies, aroused the already existing anti-Catholic feelings, and because the various colonial legislatures were called upon to help finance the cost of the war, to loosen the purse-strings and increase taxation, the whole situation proved most difficult.

It was during this increase in public feeling that the unfortunate exiles came to Maryland. The townspeople of Annapolis, at first uneasy about having "potential enemies" in their midst, soon gave way to pity and supplied clothing and provisions.

Because the Governor was in New York at this time to attend a meeting of the provincial governors, the Maryland Council decided to distribute the Acadians to various parts of the colony so that they might be better supported. Thus, in the beginning one vessel loaded with Acadians was sent to the Patuxent River, one to the "Choptank," one to the Wicomico, and another to the Baltimore area. From these points the Acadians were to settle in every part of Maryland except Frederick County, which was thought to be too close to the Indian war zone for possible enemy families to be settled. Under this arrangement some members were separated from their families, some even before they had left Nova Scotia.

Although it has been difficult to trace the story of these exiles once they left Annapolis, we do have several accounts of settlements on the Eastern Shore. It has been said that those who were sent to the Choptank River (Oxford) were most fortunate in comparison to others, both on the Eastern and Western Shores, in that they were placed under the guidance and supervision of Henry Callister, who from the very first interested himself on their behalf.

Callister, on December 25, 1755, wrote that very little had been done for these "poor wretches" by the public and but few had any interest in their welfare. "But our aversion to their principles must not be allowed to destroy the seeds of humanity. The case of these French is grossly misrepresented among us to their disadvantage, which, added to the aversion we have to their principles as Papists, seems to have destroyed the seeds of charity in us, and eradicated the principle of humanity."

Callister did have the good fortune in his region to place almost every family in good houses to protect them from the winter weather, although there were a number gathered about him in tears, "craving relief for their sick." However, according to reports from Somerset County, conditions there were shocking and dismal, as the Acadians "were obliged to betake themselves for shelter to the swamps, and now and a long time full of snow, where they sicken and die."

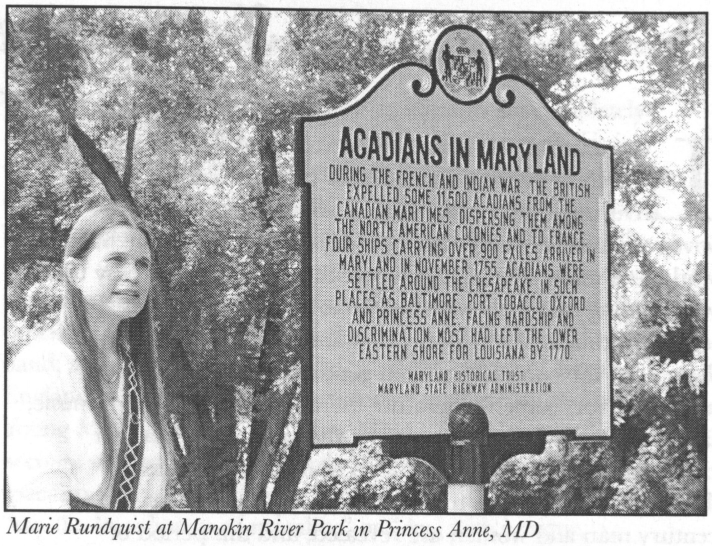
Among those assisting Callister in giving aid and comfort to the Acadians was the Rev. Thomas Bacon, who had a collection taken up in his parish church, White Marsh, "for the relief of the poor, distressed French exiles of Acadia." Reports also show that Bacon, personally, contributed three times as much as the entire congregation.

In January 1756, Callister again reported on the conditions of the Acadians on the Eastern Shore. This time he let it be known, that he was not ashamed of the part he had played but that some Englishmen were not doing so well in aiding the French exiles. He went on to say that "The people are well, so far as I can hear. There's only an old woman dead in Dorset, aged 87. There are five families here not yet lodged. One of them I ordered back from the house of a Papist." Such action was in line with the government's orders that none of the Acadians were to be lodged with the Roman Catholic inhabitants.

The families sent to Wye were all lodged. And the plan called for all those still lodged in Roman Catholic homes to be distributed to areas of Queen Anne and Dorchester counties.

Although it seems that Callister was never reimbursed for this aid given so generously, deep gratitude was shown by the Acadians in a testimonial sent to Gov. Sharpe: "We were reduced to die of hunger, saving the assistance of Mr. Callister. We can say with truth that he saved our lives."

The Maryland General Assembly finally in May 1756 passed an act empowering the justices of the county courts to make provisions for the exiles and at the same time regulate their conduct. This act was continued until May 1758, at which time it was to expire. In 1758, the Maryland Assembly let it be known that these people were too lazy to seek subsistence, which, from what we know of their past history, seems unlikely. However, provisions were made whereby those able were made to work and those unable were to be kept from perishing. The Acadian children whose families were not able to support them were given treatment similar to that of orphans. The Justices of the County Courts saw to it that these children had adequate homes.


ACADIANS IN MARYLAND
DURING THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR THE BRITISH EXPELLED SOME 11,500 ACADIANS FROM THE CANADIAN MARITIMES, DISPERSING THEM AMONG THE NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES AND TO FRANCE. FOUR SHIPS CARRYING OVER 900 EXILES ARRIVED IN MARYLAND IN NOVEMBER 1755. ACADIANS WERE SETTLED AROUND THE CHESAPEAKE, IN SUCH PLACES AS BALTIMORE, PORT TOBACCO, OXFORD, AND PRINCESS ANNE. FACING HARDSHIP AND DISCRIMINATION, MOST HAD LEFT THE LOWER EASTERN SHORE FOR LOUISIANA BY 1770.
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
MARYLAND STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

Marie Rundquist at Manokin River Park in Princess Anne, MD

If any Acadian found it necessary to travel a distance more than 10 miles from his place of residence, he had to obtain a pass from the magistrate. This pass had to contain a description of the person, his place of residence, destination, and a time for his return. Any Acadian not having such a pass could be arrested, held in jail for five days and then sent back to his residence. This regulation was in effect for about two years.

Although a rather influential group of citizens from Talbot County presented an address to their representatives in the General Assembly in February 1757 stating grievances against these people, it is felt that a majority of the Marylanders did not feel so strongly about this issue.

It is known however, that the Acadians exerted efforts to reach areas where they would be with people of their own race, religion and language. Many, after several years stay in Maryland, took up their travels again for such places as Quebec and Louisiana. For example, some 30 or 40 of these exiles had found their way to the old Eastern Shore town of Fredericktown, Cecil County; they stayed there about 10 years before again wandering.

There was no legitimate ground for complaint against the Acadians; the feeling of distrust occurred because of the situation within Maryland as a result of the famous French and Indian War. And as a result many Acadians had unfavorable conditions forced on them because of the critical times.

It is certain, however, that many of these exiles found a refuge in Maryland and stayed here to prosper and become citizens. Yet, as Basil Sollers said back in 1908: "To trace these genealogically would be an interesting piece of work. Until this is done we cannot say how permanent in its effects upon Maryland was the transportation of the Acadians in 1755." ◆

A Maryland Historical Trust sign recognizing the Acadians' contribution to Maryland's history on the Eastern Shore was unveiled in July 2013 at Manokin River Park in Princess Anne, MD, by Marie Rundquist, author of *Cajun by Any Other Name: Recovering the Lost History of a Family and a People*. For more information about the Acadians in Maryland, read *A Guide to Acadians in Maryland in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries and The French Presence in Maryland in 1524-1800* by Gregory A. Wood.

Juxtaposed Literature

By Kendra Pain

Literature of the mid-1800s reveals a great deal about the different interests and roles of local men and women. During a time when women were expected to be good wives and mothers and men were supposed to enter the business world and make a living to support their families, it is easy to see why reading materials were geared toward a specific sex. By looking through *Godey's Lady's Book* and *Magazine and Letters to Young Men*, the contrast between genders becomes painfully apparent. For women's literature there was a focus on art, music, fashion and love; texts for men, on the other hand, had an emphasis on education, religion, economics and business. Through these articles, the values and expectations of the 19-century man and woman are revealed, and this period of gender-specific roles can be better understood.

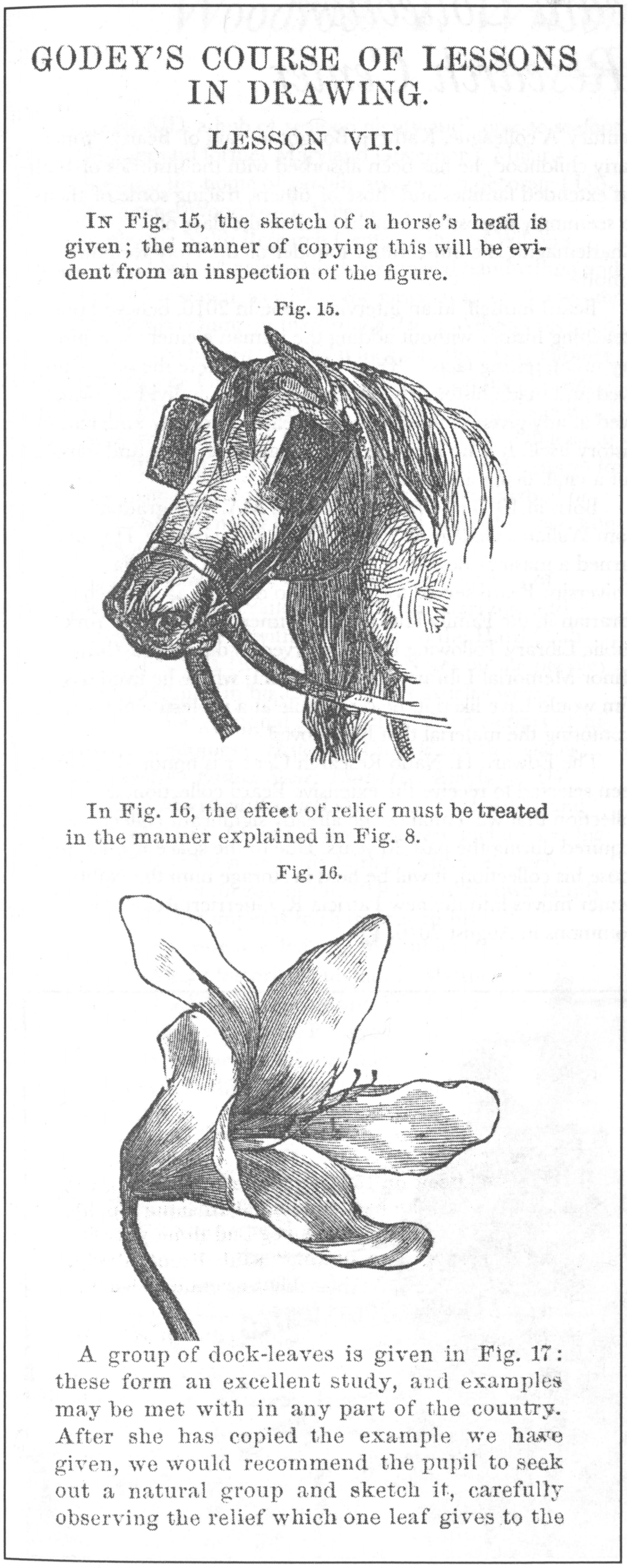
Although both *Godey's Lady's Book* and *Magazine and Letters to Young Men* were written in the mid-to-late 1800s, their topics are almost comically different. *Godey's* has a wide variety of articles, but every issue seems to include fashion tips and pictures of dresses for women and children, sheet music, drawing lessons, and sewing patterns. Music, drawing and sewing were considered appropriate, fashionable hobbies for a woman during the time, so it is not surprising to see it as a main focus for women's literature; when it is compared to *Letters to Young Men*, however, it seems frivolous and petty. *Letters to Young Men* has passages about many things, but the main focus for most of its articles is career choices and the qualities needed for different professions. There are long articles about what it takes to be a good lawyer, doctor, teacher and engineer. There are even articles about becoming a farmer or minister. This was appealing to an Eastern Shore audience, where the majority of men were farmers and many others chose the ministry as a profession. Over a dozen jobs are examined and analyzed in these pages; great thought and depth is put into planning for the future and finding a path that is best suited for individual readers.

After reading these letters, the *Godey's* articles seem extremely superficial and the enormous differences between the roles of men and women are emphasized. A woman was only expected to stay home and take care of the house, so her literature needed entertainment value but no information that related to issues outside the home; men, on the other hand, were expected to make a living and had to worry about education and economics; thus male literature seems to convey critical information as opposed to trivial stories. What seems more important, learning that you should "always have lobster sauce with salmon" and understanding the proper way to dress a salad, or planning your economic future?

Another difference in these two texts that highlights the dissimilarity between males and females is the focus on finding a husband or wife. A woman's main goal in life was to find a suitable husband to provide for her; the many articles on finding love and romance are, therefore, to be expected. Fictional stories like "My Term at Wildwood" (featuring a governess who, through a series of anonymous letters, falls in love with the rich cousin of her employer) and "What St. Valentine Brought to Eoline" (about a young girl who uses religion and endless patience to convert an alcoholic into a gentleman; eventually they marry and live happily ever after on his large estate in the country) are two examples of the articles that fill women's magazines. They are silly and unrealistic, but very sweet and romantic.

When these stories are compared to the *Letters to Young Men*, it is amusing to see how little finding a wife is mentioned. While women's magazines seem to focus on love or men, *Letters to Young Men* almost completely ignore women and romance. There are 27 letters in this series, 18 letters are devoted to careers, seven are dedicated to self-improvement and only two address a man's relationship with a woman. In letters 25, "Society and Amusements," and 26, "Sowing Wild Oats," women are mentioned as "things" that should be approached with caution. A female has the potential be a good companion, but males should watch out for "a beautiful woman without discretion" for they are, as "Solomon [says] 'As a jewel of gold in a swine's snout.'" The only other mentions of women are brief allusions in articles about economics that mention providing for a family. The priorities of men and women are obviously completely different during this period. With countless stories on finding a kind and wealthy husband filling female's literature, and little emphasis on women in male texts, the patriarchal culture of the 19th century can be seen and the distinct values and gender roles of the time become apparent.

An interesting aspect of the *Godey's Lady's Books* is the way the editor approached religion. During the 1800s, women were seen as the moral compass of the family; women were supposed to be pious and humble. Religion is very rarely approached directly in *Godey's* articles, and although it plays a part in all the stories, it seems strange that there are not more articles purely about God. In the article "The Rights of Women," for example, women are warned that although "pride will make them want to leave Eden," they need to stay in their proper place, in the "role God gave them," subordinate to men. Although there are many small references like this to religion in stories throughout the *Godey's Magazines*, they do not convey a strong faith. In contrast the *Letters to Young Men* devote an entire letter titled "The Young Man's Religion." Although it is a very biased letter, discounting all religions but Christianity, it talks passionately about having "sympathy with all true Christians" and declares that a man who "firmly believes in God" is a man with principles and character. Most people were religious during the 19th century, but the fact that literature for men put more emphasis on religion shows the seriousness and importance of what males were reading, and the way women's texts mentioned religion in fiction or in an



GODEY'S COURSE OF LESSONS IN DRAWING.

LESSON VII.

In Fig. 15, the sketch of a horse's head is given; the manner of copying this will be evident from an inspection of the figure.

Fig. 15.

In Fig. 16, the effect of relief must be treated in the manner explained in Fig. 8.

Fig. 16.

A group of dock-leaves is given in Fig. 17: these form an excellent study, and examples may be met with in any part of the country. After she has copied the example we have given, we would recommend the pupil to seek out a natural group and sketch it, carefully observing the relief which one leaf gives to the

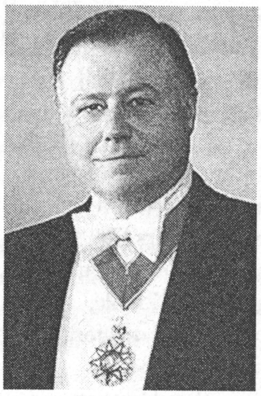
informal, understated manner makes their stories seem trivial in comparison.

Even the shorter articles based on interests are completely different. In *Godey's*, there are articles like "Antiquity of Kissing," which gives a history of the kiss, from its first mention in the Bible (when Isaac kissed his son Jacob) to the more modern custom of kissing a hand or a cheek as a greeting; "Pearl and Pearl-shell Gossip," which gives a background of the pearl and talks about the reason behind its value; "Nine Wedding-Ring Reasons," which explains the symbolism and origin of the customary gold wedding band; and "Tea-Talk," which describes the history of tea in England. The corresponding articles for men are letters like "The Young Man Cultivating His Own Mind," which gives a detailed account of the appropriate books from a sophisticated male, specifically books that do not "speak disrespectfully of religion," "sap the foundations of morality," or "deal with intrigue, adulteries, and crime." Other examples are "Further Hints on Self-Improvement," which explains the benefits of joining a Debate Club and setting time aside for educational reading every day, and "Society and Amusements," which says that a man who does not socialize properly "will be uncouth, abstracted, remote, unfriendly, melancholy, and slow" and gives tips on finding a proper wife without getting the reputation of being "lewd." Although the history of kissing and tea are interesting, they are not vital to life; they do not even expand a woman's knowledge in a helpful manner. The helpful guidance on preparing for life and bettering yourself found in *Letters to Young Men* are practical and useful for a wide variety of people.

The topics of romance and frivolity are on opposite ends of the spectrum from readings on professions and prestige. One is for entertainment and the other is a tool for a successful life; their extreme diversity highlights the differences of their readers. Women, who never needed extensive educations, jobs, or information that did no pertain to their homes, enjoyed their magazines with pretty pictures and whimsical articles. Men, whose lives were spent in the business world, were more interested in self-improvement and literature that was a means of obtaining a good, respectable career and reputation. Through *Godey's Lady's Book and Magazine* and *Letters to Young Men*, the contrast between sexes and the gender roles they filled can be viewed and understood, giving a glimpse into the world of the 19th century.

Kendra Pain, an English major at Salisbury University, wrote several articles during her internship at the Nabb Research Center. She used the extensive Bayley collection at the Nabb Center in writing this paper.

Timothy Field Beard Collection Donated to Nabb Research Center



Timothy Beard

Timothy Beard, whose roots ran deep in Delmarva, died in Roxbury, CT, at the age of 84 on February 13, 2015. His entire collection of monographs was donated to the Edward H. Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture at Salisbury University. Tim had been introduced to the Nabb Center by his relative Thomas Fooks V, who preceded him in death in late 2013, leaving the Nabb Center a large bequest. Having spent considerable time at the Nabb Research Center during the last several years, Beard recognized the importance of the Center's expansive mid-Atlantic and Chesapeake research collection and felt that his personal collection would enhance the Center's holdings.

A noted author and researcher of family and social history and of the history of the 17th-century Chesapeake, Beard was widely recognized as one of the premier family historians in the United States. Best known for his critically acclaimed book *How to Find Your Family Roots,* Beard was known throughout the United States for the thoroughness and carefulness of his research. He was one of only 50 Fellows of the American Society of Genealogists, an organization that honors the finest family history researchers in the country. A lifetime honor, this accolade is granted to no more than 50 researchers at any one time. Beard's election to this prestigious society in 1997 is a testament to the quality of his continuing research and study.

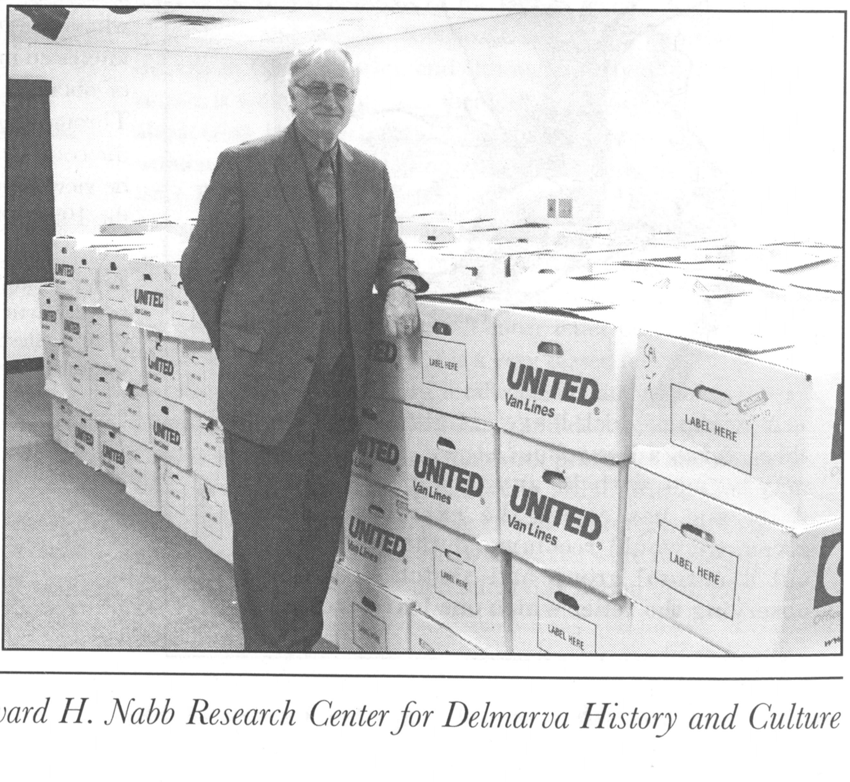
A member of a host of genealogical organizations, Beard served as president of the Order of Colonial Lords of Manors of America. He was also a member of the Society of Colonial Wars, past registrar general of the Sons of the American Revolution, past president of the Order of the Crown of Charlemagne, a member of the Society of Cincinnati in the State of Maryland, commander of the Order of Indian Wars of the United States and past president general of the Saint Nicholas Society of New York City. Most recently, in his attempt to discover the importance of "family" in history, he had been instrumental in establishing the prestigious Merovingian Society.

A modest man, Beard never called attention to his own accomplishments, yet worked with diligence to bring to light additional early records of America and, in particular, to understand the society which was developing in the Chesapeake area from the 17th century. A colleague, Kathryn Boughton, said of Beard: "Since early childhood, he has been absorbed with the histories of both his extended families and those of others, tracing some of them to seemingly impossible lengths back to the days of Charlemagne, the 8th-century founder of the Holy Roman Empire."

Beard himself, in an interview done in 2010, believed that "teaching history without adding the human element was just dry uninteresting facts." "People," he said, "were the ones who lived and made history. By understanding the individuals who lived at any given time we can more easily and fully understand history itself. It is no longer a dry recitation of dates and names, but a vital, living account."

Born in 1930 in Great Barrington, MA, Tim graduated from Williams College in 1953 with a history degree. He later earned a master's degree in library science at Columbia University. Beard served for nearly two decades as research librarian in the Family History Department of the New York Public Library. Following that, he served as director of the Minor Memorial Library in Roxbury, CT, where he lived. As Tim would have liked it, he died while at a professional meeting, promoting the material that he so loved.

The Edward H. Nabb Research Center is honored to have been selected to receive the extensive Beard collection, a collection that will enhance the already significant collections acquired during the past 30 years. Due to the space needed to house his collection, it will be held in storage until the Nabb Center moves into the new Patricia R. Guerrieri Academic Commons in August 2016.



Woodrow T. Wilson, Crisfield's Historian

By Leslie McRoberts, Nabb Archivist

Crisfield, MD, a hub of seafood plenty and home to seafood packing houses and former Maryland Governor J. Millard Tawes, was also the home of prolific author and decorated U.S. Army Lt. Colonel Woodrow T. Wilson.

Recently, the Nabb Research Center acquired Wilson's papers, many boxes of painstakingly organized handwritten and typed pages of research, as well as the newspaper articles written by Wilson for his column in the *Crisfield Times*. Wilson's research was not limited to his own family; it included the many families associated with the Crisfield area in Somerset County. Wilson could be described as indefatigable; looking at the binders it is clear that he was passionate about his town and those that came before him. He wanted to preserve the history and the stories for others who would come after him. His meticulous method of filing and cross-referencing his research will make this collection user-friendly for researchers.

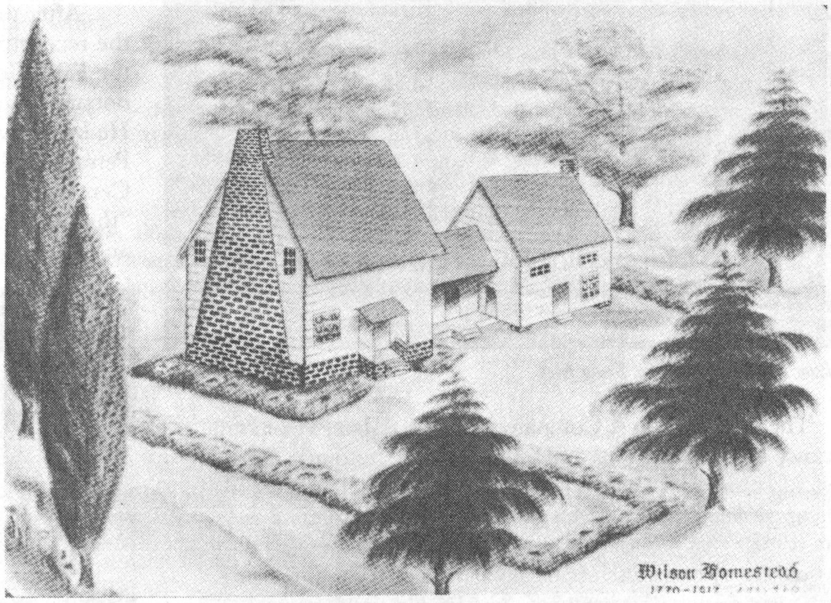
Wilson documented people, places and activities of Crisfield. His collection ranged from birth, marriage and death records, complete with obituaries, to the Hard Crab Derby and Crisfield's 1976 Centennial. Notes on the people who were mentioned in his *Crisfield Times* articles were collected into what he noted as "Albums." Manuscripts of his four published volumes – *History of Crisfield and Surrounding Areas on Maryland's Eastern Shore; Thirty-Four Families of Old Somerset County, Maryland; Crisfield, Maryland 1676-1976;* and *Quindocqua, Maryland, Indian Country* – also are included in his collection. Of special note is the family history research, research that Wilson began in the 1940s with his own family history, creating the impetus to share it with his own relatives. His research led him to contact other Eastern Shore historians, including Matthew Wise, author of *Littleton's Heritage* and *The Boston Family of Maryland*, and Leslie P. Dryden, whose family research binders are also at the Nabb Research Center, to further develop the content of his publications.

Wilson, no relation to the 28th U.S. president, was born on the Wilson homestead in Marion, in Somerset County, in January 1913. Upon graduation from Marion High School, he earned an accounting degree from LaSalle University in Philadelphia. Returning to Crisfield, he worked as an accountant for Crisfield Light and Power. When World War II erupted, he was a member of the 115th Regiment of Maryland's National Guard in Crisfield. He served in both the Pacific and European Theaters, also serving as a Battalion commander during the Korean Conflict. He and his wife, the former Margaret Hambrecht of Madison, WI, had three children. Upon retiring from the Army in 1962, he returned to his beloved Crisfield where he became the executive director of the Crisfield Housing Authority and later was involved with the management of the Somers Cove Marina. During the 1970s, he authored the four volumes on the history and families of the Crisfield area. Wilson was the chairman of Crisfield's 1976 Centennial Committee, a member of numerous service organizations and received an Outstanding Citizen of Crisfield Award. Simultaneously, he was a features writer at the *Crisfield Times*, authoring numerous articles on the history of Crisfield.

Wilson died in 1997 and left posterity his vast documentation of the people of Crisfield and Somerset County. The Nabb Research Center staff are pleased to be the repository of the results of his many years of local history research. The collection will be open to researchers in the fall, after our move to the new Academic Commons.

Woodrow T. Wilson

Woodrow T. Wilson
Lt. Col., U. S. Army (Ret.)



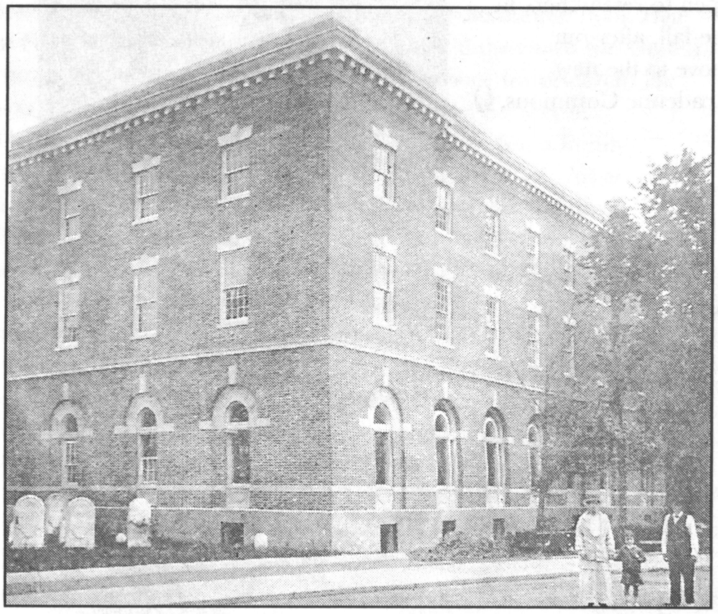
Wilson Homestead
1770-1917

The Jackson Brothers' Legacy

By Emily Hitchcock

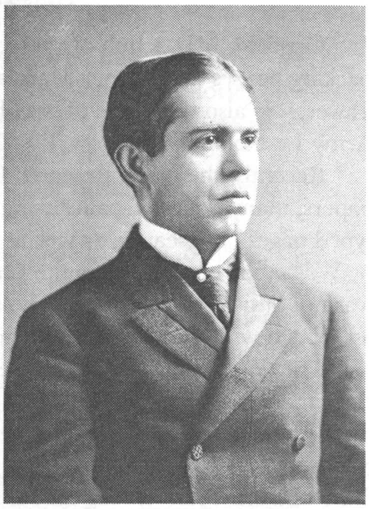
The typical wanderer through Parsons Cemetery in Salisbury, MD, has likely passed the Jackson family lot without ever recognizing the importance of the people who rest there. Elihu Emory Jackson and his wife, Nannie Rider Jackson; William Humphreys Jackson; and William H. Jackson's son, William Purnell Jackson, contributed significantly to the progress of Salisbury during their lives. Indeed, the Jackson family was peopled with entrepreneurs, politicians and visionaries who rose to prominence starting with Elihu Emory Jackson and William Humphreys Jackson, two brothers who managed to reach extraordinary heights in their political careers and commercial success despite their humble upbringings.

Born in Delmar to Hugh and Sarah McBride Jackson in 1837, Elihu Emory Jackson was the oldest of seven siblings. He received a basic education at a country school before withdrawing to help manage the family farm. After the railroad reached Salisbury in 1860, the 22-year-old Elihu opened a general merchandise shop that provided "lumber, grain, and other dry goods" for the city-folk; he would eventually establish one of the largest lumber mills in the country. With the help of his father and his brother William, who was born in 1839, Elihu formed E.E. Jackson & Company, which steadily grew as it established sawmills in Maryland, Virginia and Alabama. However, most of their efforts were concentrated in Salisbury.



Jackson Memorial Hall for Young Men

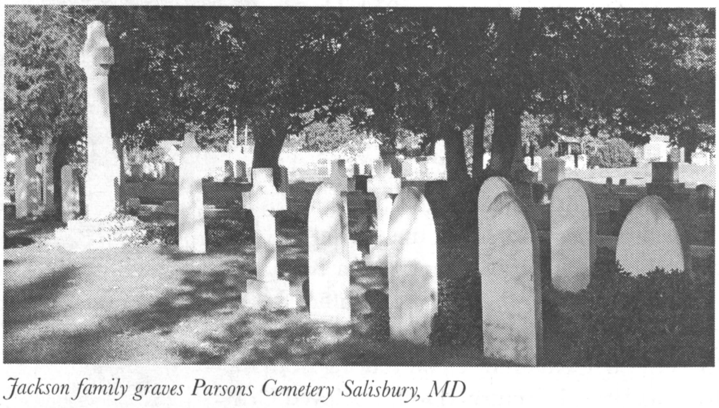
The E.E. Jackson & Company helped Salisbury's economic advance by providing jobs and supporting the restoration of the town after the devastating 1886 Salisbury fire. In *At The Crossroads: The Architectural History of Wicomico County, Maryland*, Paul Baker Touart mentions that the business remained in Salisbury although it would have been more financially beneficial for it to relocate south after the fire. Furthermore, *The Tercentenary History of Maryland* asserts that Elihu and William "could have saved from twenty to thirty thousand dollars a year in freight alone had [they] moved [their] mills to the south ... but [they] refused to do this because of the number of people who would thus be thrown out of employment in Salisbury." In the words of William H. Jackson: "If I get 2 or 3 per cent upon the capital invested, I shall be satisfied, and even if I could get nothing, the town must be built up. The people must have employment, and I am more able than others to do it." Luckily, this would not be their final contribution to Salisbury. In fact, the Jackson family was so dedicated to the community that it made numerous additions that still benefit the city today.



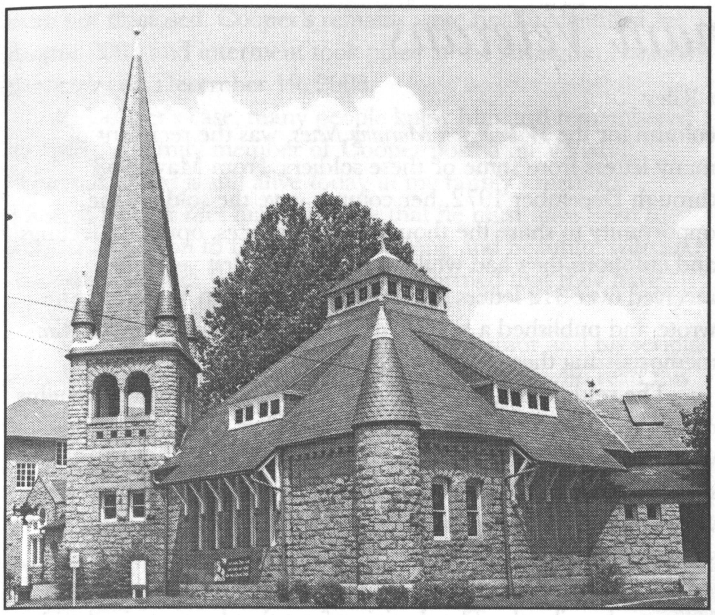
Senator William Purnell Jackson

The Jacksons did this by making financial donations to various building projects and establishing new institutions. Together, Elihu and his wife Nannie Rider Jackson funded the construction of a new church building for Trinity Methodist Church, which still serves the community today. Our December 2010 *Shoreline* includes a short biography of Nannie Rider Jackson written by George Chevallier. The article describes her role in the construction of the Jackson Memorial Building, which was built "on the corner of Broad and North Division streets [in Salisbury] as a memorial to her late husband [Elihu]." The building was originally built to house the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) and today serves as the education building of the Trinity United Methodist Church.

After the disastrous 1886 fire, William H. Jackson aided in the reconstruction of Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church, now the Faith Community Church, and was "most liberal in his donations to Methodist churches throughout Wicomico County." He later gave a significant amount of money to build the Peninsula General Hospital (now Peninsula Regional Medical Center). Likewise, the brothers funded the rebuilding of the "three-story commercial block on the corner of Main [Street] and Dock [now Market]."



Jackson family graves Parsons Cemetery Salisbury, MD

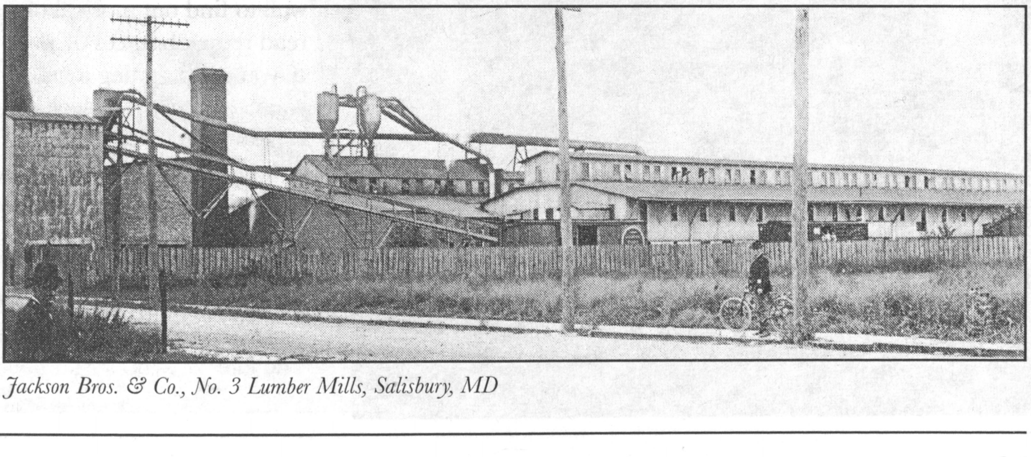

Asbury Church, Salisbury, MD

1059
M.E. CHURCH
South Salisbury, Md.
Trinity Church, Salisbury, MD

In *The Archives of Maryland (Biographical Series)*, E.E. Jackson was said to have been elected as governor due to his commercial successes and was called the "most powerful leader on the Eastern Shore" following the 1887 Democratic Convention. From 1888-1892, he served as Maryland's governor. He later attempted to become a United States senator twice, but failed each time. However, his position as governor of Maryland allowed him to make the political changes that ultimately benefited the state.

The Jackson brothers' philanthropic pursuits continued throughout their political lives. Governor Elihu Jackson believed in taxing large corporations and only gave tax exemptions to "religious and charitable organizations." Additionally, he took steps to pass a law to tax foreign companies in Maryland. He saved the state money, changing tobacco inspection laws and changing voting laws, specifically the Australian Ballot law, which "provided for the printing of an official ballot and the appointment of election officials by the Governor." Elihu's personal and political contributions helped shape Salisbury and in fact, the whole State of Maryland.

In an interview that took place around 1900, titled *William H. Jackson to Young Men*, William H. Jackson, who was, at the time, a Republican candidate for Congress in the First District, encouraged young men to remain on the Eastern Shore to promote its growth and development. He believed the Eastern Shore was able to "offer more rewards for industry, energy, thrift, and ability than any other section of this broad land." He saw young men as crucial to the development of the city, for they were built for the much-needed physical labor. This, he felt, was what placed Salisbury "ahead of some Eastern Shore towns" and was another motivator that kept him from moving the business south, though he planned on relocating in the future. In *Tercentenary History of Maryland*, William H. Jackson is described as "one of the most liberal philanthropists of the Eastern Shore."


Jackson Bros. & Co., No. 3 Lumber Mills, Salisbury, MD

William H. Jackson's son, William Purnell Jackson, was his father's "successor in political prominence as well as in business." By the age of 20, he had become a partner, along with his father and his uncle Elihu Jackson, in E.E Jackson and Company. A Republican, elected to the United States Senate in 1912, William Purnell Jackson became the state treasurer in 1918. Like his father, he made substantial financial contributions to Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church and aided in the construction of its Fellowship Hall.

On a typical Sunday, many citizens of Salisbury, MD, will attend a service at any number of local churches. Chances are, some will find their way to Faith Community Church or Trinity Methodist Church, be it by routine or by happenstance. Others will nonchalantly pass by the picturesque Jackson Memorial Building without a second thought as to how or why it was built – or who to thank for its being there. These are small parts of the Jackson family legacy. Indeed, the Jacksons provided jobs and financial and political support, built homes, and invested their entire lives in bettering Salisbury, the city that they loved.

Emily Hitchcock, an English major at Salisbury University, interned at the Nabb Center in spring 2015.

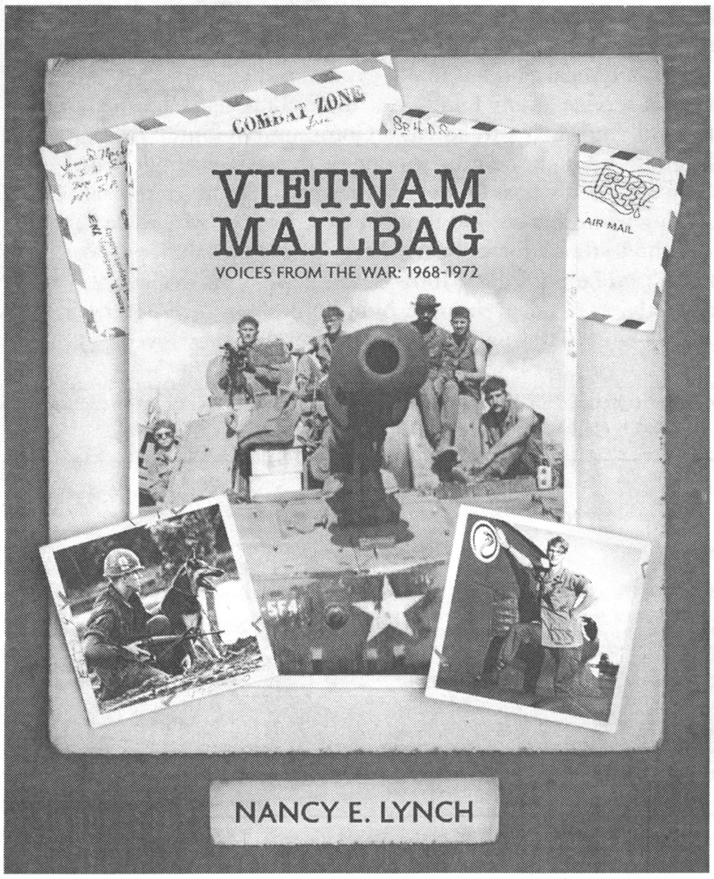
Salute to Vietnam Veterans

By Amber Riley

The Nabb Research Center is honored to be hosting Maryland Public Television's traveling exhibit "MPT Salutes Vietnam Veterans" in January. The exhibit, created to salute and honor Maryland's veterans, is making its way around Maryland through June 2016 to celebrate the military service of Marylanders during the Vietnam War. The exhibit features both current-day and wartime images of 16 men and women along with their recollections of incidents from the war. An artifact display includes items from the war. Visitors will be able to craft messages to veterans or share their own stories. MPT will also air the documentary film *Maryland Vietnam War Stories* on three successive weeknights beginning at 8 p.m. on MPT-HD May 24-26, 2016. Mark your calendars!

The Vietnam War impacted the lives of many people: soldiers, mothers, sons, nurses, brothers and sisters – and the list goes on. The men and women who served their country will always be remembered and honored – even as the hearts of some families are still healing. More than 58,000 United States soldiers died serving their country in Vietnam.

Many local men and women served in the war, showing true dedication and leadership, sacrificing greatly to serve their nation. Regardless of the blood, sweat and tears, servicemen accepted the dangerous duties they had to perform. Many soldiers wrote home to their loved ones or to friends relating some of their experiences. Nancy Lynch, a reporter who wrote a column for the *Wilmington Morning News*, was the recipient of many letters from some of these soldiers. From May 1968 through December 1972, her column gave the soldiers the opportunity to share the thoughts, experiences, opinions, feelings and emotions they had while at war. In the first year, she received over 312 letters from soldiers serving in Vietnam. She wrote and published a book, *Vietnam Mailbag: Voices from the War*, memorializing these letters and the soldiers.



The soldiers wrote about many subjects: family life, thoughts on the war and local happenings. Regardless of what soldiers went through, they tried to find a light in the darkest of days. A section in Lynch's book explains that, despite the brutality of the war, Vietnam offered plenty of uplifting moments to keep the soldiers hopeful.

Army Sgt. Robert S. Biss wrote to Lynch on December 1, 1969, to describe the Thanksgiving feast that he organized with other troops to celebrate the meaningful holiday. They gathered varieties of food like French bread, chicken, steak and, of course, liquor to make it feel like home. "We truly had a lot to be thankful for that day. It was a good time," he said.

Lynch also gave troops the opportunity to write to loved ones. Army Captain James D. Rawlins Jr. requested that Lynch publish a letter in her column for his 7-year-old daughter. It was a very emotional letter, telling the truth about the war. He wrote: "I want you to know that the Army did not make me come here. I asked to come here for one year. I asked because I am a patriot and I felt it was my duty. A patriot is someone who loves his country and helps his country's leaders protect it from danger."

Vietnam Mailbag helps the public try to understand what the soldiers went through in Vietnam: their struggles, hardships, good days, bad days, fears and bravery.

It is often difficult for those who did not serve in the war to comprehend the sacrifice of those who died for our country. In addition to reading books such as *Vietnam Mailbag*, another remembrance in honor of the veterans is the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C., created in 1982. The wall is dedicated to all Vietnam veterans who died in action. The websites www.thewall-usa.com and www.vvmf.org give you the opportunity to research the names of the veterans named on the wall to find out more about them. On one of the sites, you can read remembrances of the soldier posted by family and friends. If you are planning a visit to the Memorial Wall in Washington, you can determine the location of the soldier's name on the wall by searching this site.

One local hero is Air Force Capt. Richard Waller Cooper. According to information found on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund site, the aircraft in which Cooper was flying was shot down by a surface to air missile. Hanoi Radio announced that the six crewmen had been captured. However, when the war ended, only four of the crew returned from Hanoi's prisons. The fates of Cooper and fellow airman Sgt. Charlie S. Poole were not disclosed. Cooper's remains were finally identified in August 2003 and interment took place at the Arlington National Cemetery on December 19, 2003.

In Cooper's case, many people knew him and remembered his spirit. A family member of Cooper posted on VVMF: "Uncle Richard is still alive today in my family's memory. Though I never met him, I believe that he must have been a wonderful person to have left such caring and beautiful wife and daughters behind. We were recently informed that they have found his 'ashes' so he is no longer MIA."

A classmate remembered his sense of humor and his serious side. He also noted: "To any friends and relatives who read this post, know that he is remembered by his old friends, and I pray for him every day that he is resting peacefully with his God." Cooper is one of the many veterans from Delmarva who is remembered on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C.

The *MPT Salutes Vietnam Veterans* exhibit will be at the Nabb Research Center's gallery January 4-15, Monday through Friday 1-4 p.m. The exhibit is free and open to the public.

Amber Riley, a communication arts student, interned at the Nabb Research Center during the fall 2015 semester.

arts-wallpapers.com

Patricia R. Guerrieri Academic Commons

Academic Commons, facing campus, artist's rendition

The staff members of the Nabb Research Center are excitedly watching the construction of the Guerrieri Academic Commons facing Route 13 on Salisbury University's main campus. Many of you know that it will soon be home to the Nabb Research Center and the Library. The building also will house student and faculty support offices, a venue for lectures and group gatherings, as well as a café. Serving students, faculty and the local community, the Guerrieri Academic Commons will become the hub of academic life on the SU campus, promoting scholarship, outreach, research and academic enrichment.

The Nabb Research Center will encompass a large portion of the fourth floor of the building, greatly expanding the space for books, periodicals and public-use computers in the new Reading Room. Two exhibit areas, interpreting local history and culture, will be located at the entrance of the Nabb Research Center, easily visible to students and the public-at-large. Two state-of-the-art, climate and humidity controlled archival spaces will provide appropriate conditions and space to store paper documents, textiles and other local artifacts under one roof, ensuring that the materials under our care will be properly maintained and remain available for generations to come.

A digitization and processing center, providing generous work spaces for identifying, cataloging, processing and digitizing archival materials; a classroom; microform room; and staff offices will also be part of the Nabb Center's new space. In addition, a separate archaeology laboratory will give students working with SU's archaeologist practical experience identifying and housing local archaeological materials.

Naming opportunities in the Academic Commons building create a lasting legacy at Salisbury University and also can be used to honor a family or loved one. Some supporters have already selected rooms within the Nabb Research Center to be named. We are grateful to the donors below who, recognizing the importance of our mission of preserving and disseminating Delmarva's history, are leaving a lasting legacy by naming a room in the building. We thank them for their support:

- E. Niel and Helen Carey: *Carey Family Research Room*
- Barbara Niemann: *Edward & Barbara Niemann Exhibit (permanent exhibit area)*
- Austin Okie: *Austin Faucett Okie Classroom*
- Robert Shourds Withey, Gertrude "Trudy" Means Withey and Dianne Christy Jacob: *John Edwin Jacob Jr. Director's Office*
- Reese F. Cropper III: *Reese F. Cropper III Staff Office*
- Louise Smith: *Louise Smith Archaeology Lab*

If you are interested in a naming opportunity for your family, please contact Jason Curtin, assistant vice-president for development and alumni relations, at 410-543-6176 or jecurtin@salisbury.edu.

PATRICIA R. GUERRIERI
ACADEMIC COMMONS

Academic Commons, facing Route 13, artist's rendition

Upcoming Events and Exhibits

mpt SALUTES
VIETNAM VETERANS
THE THEATRE OF WAR

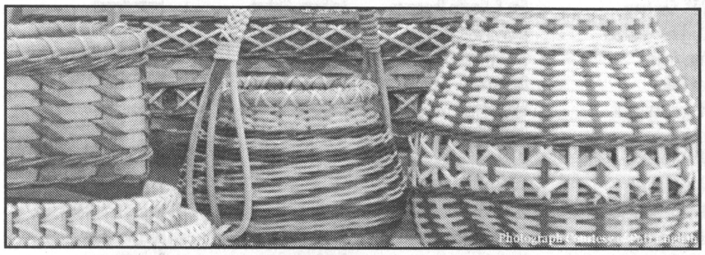
Maryland Public Television Salutes Vietnam Veterans Traveling Exhibit

January 4-15, 2016
Nabb Gallery • Monday-Friday, 1-4 p.m.

The Vietnam War impacted the lives of servicemen, their families and communities throughout the state. This MPT traveling exhibit honors the military service of Marylanders who served during the war. The exhibit features current-day and wartime images of 16 men and women with their recollections of incidents from the war and some artifacts from the war. Children will have the opportunity to color pages to thank veterans and visitors can write messages to veterans or share their own stories.
The exhibit is free and open to the public.

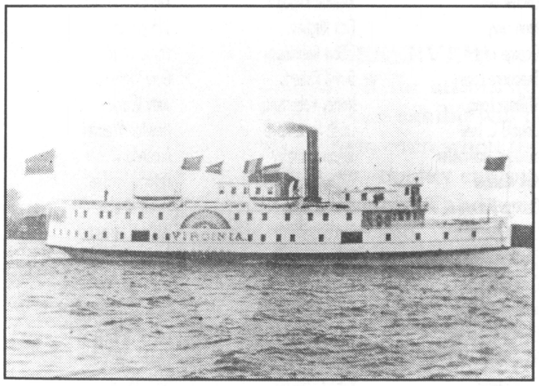
Woven Traditions: Maryland Basket-Making Communities and Culture, Past and Present

Saturday, April 23
Nabb Gallery • 1:30-3 p.m.



Roundtable Discussion: *Coopered Vegetable and Fruit Baskets of Delmarva: The Marvil Packing Company • Kathleen Beauchesne, Ph.D., Director of the Center for Research in Basketry, Inc.*

During the late 1800s, Joshua Marvil patented the basket designs that were made in his factories in Laurel, DE, and in Chestertown and Sharptown, MD. Marvil's basket designs were based on a round wooden base with a hole in the center and wooden hoops that stabilized and formed the rim – like coopered barrels used for easy rolling onto ships. Featuring local residents who worked for the Marvil Packing Company and the Eastern Shore canning industry, the roundtable highlights the importance of basketry to the fruit and vegetable industry. Baskets from the collections of the Westside Historical Society and the Adkins Historical and Museum Complex in Mardela Springs, and the Historical Society of Kent County will be on display. Bring your basket to show to the group.



"This Trip is a Treat" – Looking Back at Steamboating to Salisbury a Century Ago

February 5-April 29
Nabb Gallery • Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 1-4 p.m.

At the turn of the 20th century, the Baltimore, Chesapeake & Atlantic Railway Co. promised "a little voyage" from Baltimore to Salisbury and Ocean City that was "filled with delight." This "restful and refreshing outing" took travelers on an overnight crossing of Chesapeake Bay, offered stopovers on four bayside and Wicomico wharves, docked in the harbor at Salisbury, and provided direct connections by rail to Ocean City resorts. Follow the route of the steamboat Virginia as it transports vacationers and serves the docks in its final years – before the wharves fall victim to the new century's highways and storms.

Beyond Cotton Patch – Opening Salisbury Harbor and Changing the Landscape of Wicomico County Lecture with Phillip Hesser, Ph.D.

Tuesday, March 29
Nabb Gallery • 7 p.m.

The dredging of the Wicomico River beyond Cotton Patch wharf in 1882 opened Salisbury to the steamboat *Virginia* and a route that took vacationers from Baltimore to Ocean City and opened up much of the region to markets throughout the Northeast. Ride the *Virginia* from Baltimore to Salisbury and see how a steamboat network transformed a region – only to be outpaced by highways and swept away by storms.

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Naming Opportunities at the Nabb Research Center in the Patricia Guerrieri Academic Commons

Would you like to honor a loved one or someone who has meant a great deal to you? Here is your opportunity! While the Guerrieri family has generously pledged $8 million to name the Academic Commons after the late Patricia A. Guerrieri, there are many spaces within this wonderful building that could be named.

The Guerrieri Academic Commons will be the hub of academic life on the SU campus, serving faculty and students in all disciplines. Located in the heart of the campus, this state-of-the-art building will be home to academic events, instruction, student presentations, digital scholarship, outreach programs, study, reflection, research, individual growth and academic enrichment.

Part of University Libraries, the Nabb Center will be moving into the Academic Commons building when it is completed in August 2016. With nearly triple the space in the Academic Commons and its central campus location, its collections, reading room, classroom, archaeology lab, high-tech archival storage and rotating and permanent exhibit areas will take scholarship, field study and the pleasures of history to a whole new level.

Below is a list of spaces available with the associated donation levels.

For more information, please contact Jason Curtin, assistant vice president for development and alumni relations, at 410-543-6176 or jecurtin@salisbury.edu.

Classroom (RESERVED) **$100,000**
This space provides the Nabb Center with its first-ever dedicated classroom. With the move to the center of campus, the Nabb Center is expected to draw even more classes than it already does. This flexible classroom space allows for classes to use archival material, books or artifacts in studying Delmarva's history and culture, while also providing security for the collections.

Microform Room **$75,000**
This space provides approximately 15 microform readers and a printer to allow genealogists, local historians, students and others to take advantage of the Nabb Center's extensive microform collections.

Permanent Exhibit Area (RESERVED) **$75,000**
This high-visibility area is just off the atrium and serves as the entrance to the Nabb Center. The exhibit will be open whenever the Academic Commons is open, even when the Nabb Center itself is closed. The Smithsonian-quality exhibit cases will highlight the Nabb Center's document and artifact collections. The exhibit will have several sections, including a large display recreating home life and sections on wars, agriculture and occupations, and family history. The exhibit is meant to make people aware of the types of resources the Nabb Center has and inspire them to come in and do their own research.

Temporary Exhibit Area **$75,000**
The temporary exhibit area is just off the permanent exhibit area. It will provide a very flexible space for exhibits featuring the Nabb Center's collections and also could host traveling exhibits. Many of the exhibits are expected to be curated by Salisbury University students working with the Library's exhibits curators; the space is intended to be something of an "exhibit lab" for SU students and classes.

Book Collection Shelving Area **$50,000**
This room will provide easily accessible shelving for some of the Nabb Center's extensive collection of local history and genealogy books as well as the Library's special collection books.

Manuscript & Artifact Storage Area (2) **$50,000**
These two state-of-the-art storage areas, one for archives and one for artifacts, provide excellent climate control and security for the Nabb Center and the Library's collections of rare or unique materials. The high-quality shelving will allow us to properly store all types of materials.

Digitization & Processing Center **$30,000**
This space consists of three related workspaces to handle the processing of all types of materials. One room is dedicated to digitization equipment that will allow us to document collections and digitize some materials for online access. One room will focus on archival processing, while the other will be for general processing and work activities, including exhibit production.

Conference Room **$15,000**
This conference room within the Nabb Center will be used for hosting visits by smaller classes and meetings of smaller groups related to the Nabb Center's mission. It has smart classroom technology, such as projection and a pan-tilt-zoom camera.

Director's Office (RESERVED) **$15,000**
This office space puts the director in an ideal location to oversee the Nabb Center's operations. Situated near the Nabb Center's Classroom and Conference Room, it looks out on the Reading Room. To the west, it looks out on Red Square.

Archaeology Lab (RESERVED) **$10,000**
This fourth-floor space will provide SU's archaeology faculty and students with their first real laboratory space. It provides ample storage and workspace as well as ventilation, important when cleaning archaeological objects.

Staff Offices (6) (1 RESERVED) **$10,000**
The comfortable staff offices for the Nabb Center are situated around the outside of the Reading Room in appropriate locations. The education and outreach coordinator and the administrative assistant have offices near the director's and the Conference Room and Classroom, while the other staff offices are located between the Reading Room and the processing and work areas, allowing staff to oversee those activities.

Salisbury
UNIVERSITY

Nabb Research Center
Salisbury University
1101 Camden Avenue
Salisbury, MD 21801

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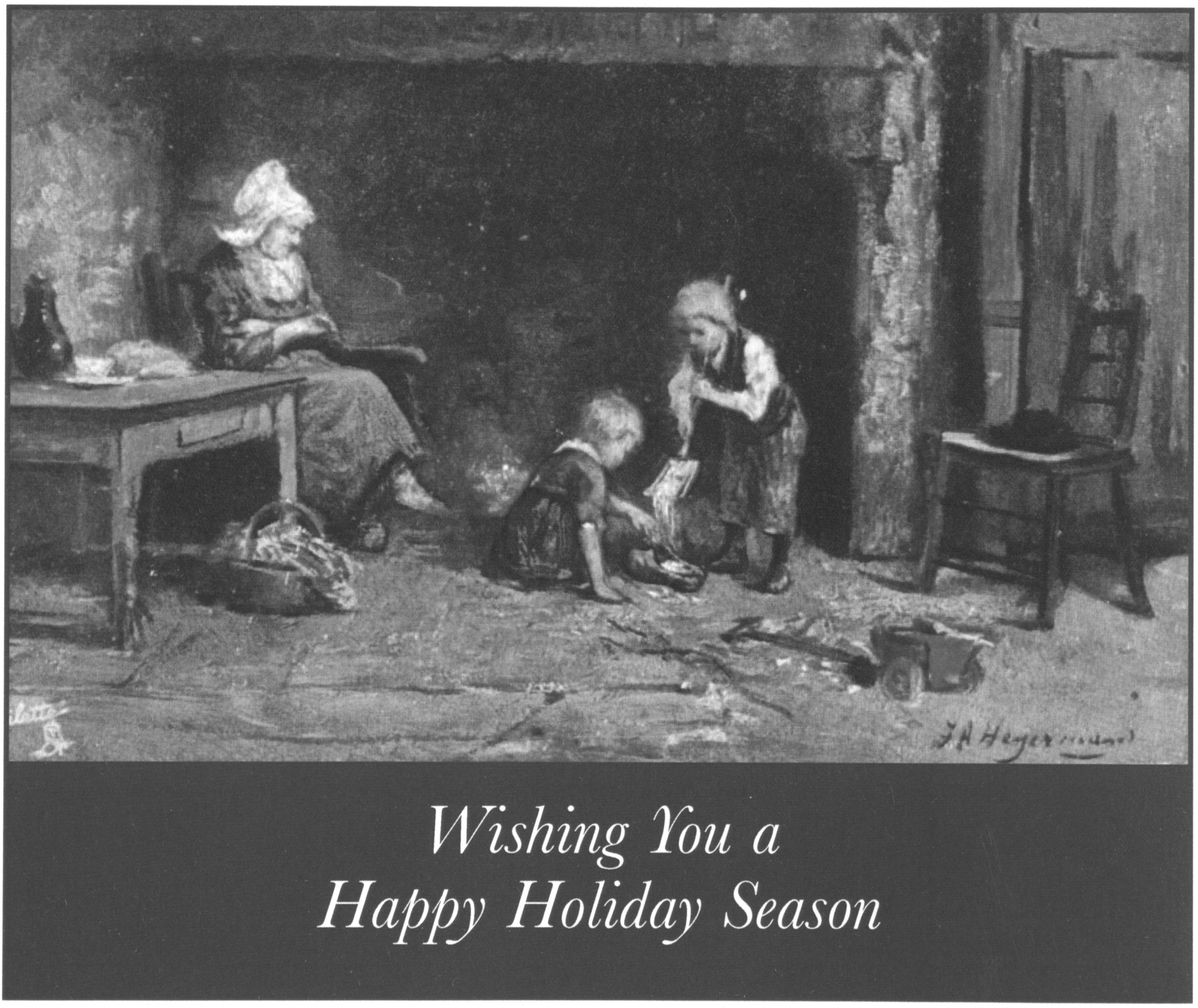

Wishing You a
Happy Holiday Season